

A perfect Pathway
to Felicitie,

Containing godlie

Meditations, and Pray-

ers, fit for all times, and

necessarie to be prac-
ticed of all good

Christians.

AT LONDON,

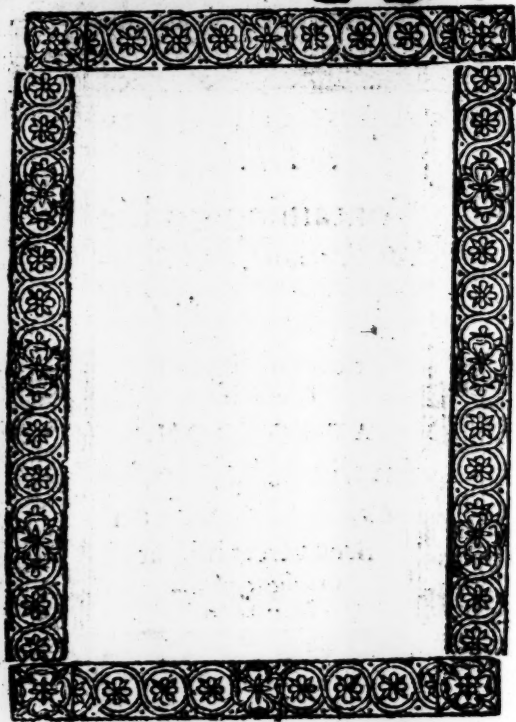
Imprinted by *Humfrey*

Lownes, dwelling on

Breadstreet hill, at

the signe of the

Star. 1610.



To the right worshipfull,
vertuous, and godlie Gentle-
woman, Mistresse Katherine
Milward, most faithfull spouse
to the no lesse worshipfull, wise and
religious Gentleman, Master William
Milward, Esquire, P. S. wisheth
all happie successe in this life, with in-
crease of worship, and in the life
to come, eternal felicity in the
Heavenly Hierarchie by
Iesus Christ.

Two things perad-
venture (Right
Worshipfull) may
be maruailed at,
concerning this little book:

The Epistle

as namely, first why I haue
publisbed it, considering the
great number of Books, ei-
ther of the same, or verie
like Argument, extant in
these dayes. Secondly, wher-
fore I haue dedicated it ra-
ther vnso you, then to anie
other. For the first, I pro-
test before God, who know-
eth the secrets of all hearts,
I haue not publisbed it, ei-
ther for vain glory, lucre, or
gaines,

Dedicatorie.

gaines, nor yet for any other
private respect of my owne
whatsoever ; but at the in-
stant request, and earnest
desire of one of my verie
good friends, and alliance
also : who yet being living,
& the onely man that hath
borne the whole charges of
the impression thereof, both
can, & I know will (if need
should require) iustifie the
same against any that shold

¶ 4 auerre

The Epistle

auerre the contrarie. And
for the second, when I con-
sidered with my selfe, how
much bound I haue alwaies
beene to your worship, euer
since the time that I was
first acquainted with you,
for your good opinion you
haue euer conceined of me, &
fundrie other your courte-
sies shewed towards me, far
beyond my desert or expec-
tation: As also when I cal-
led

Dedicatorie.

led to remembrance your
feruent zeale which you
haue euer born to the word
of God, & holy religiō, your
exquisite knowledge there-
in, your careful indewour to
put the same in practise, &
to frame yo^r life thereafter:
Briefly, when I remembred
your maruailous humilitie
& lowlinesse of mind, your
wonderfull modestie, gen-
tlenesse and affability, your
rare

The Epistle

rare continencie, and integritie of life, with infinite the like vertues and graces, wherewith God hath beautified & adorned your worship aboue manie others; I say, when I remembered these things, with many mo, I could doe no lesse (hauing so fit an occasion giuen me, by reason of my friends importunacie) then to dedicate these my labors to your wor-

Dedicatorie.

worship, though not as a
guerdon answerable to your
deserts, yet as an infallible
testimonie, pledge and to-
ken of my thankful goodwill
and grateful heart towards
you. And albeit that in re-
spect of the formal method
of the booke (for herein I
haue not studied to be curi-
ous) it may seeme to be base
and contemptible, and such
as is farre vnworthy to bee
exhi-

The Epistle.

exhibited, to so wise, so discreet, so godly & religious a gentlewoman ; yet in regard of the matter , which is heavenly and divine , I most humbly beseech you to accept therof, and to permit the same to go forth to the view of the worlde under the gard of your protectiō, and to patronize both the author & the booke against the poysoned tongues of railing

Dedicatorie,

ling Phormions, and flowing Momusses, to whom all good things are had in disdaine. And in so doing, both God shall bee glorified by you, the church & Saints shall praise God in you, & I my selfe (besides that I will not rest vnthankfull to you to the death) will not cease also to pray to God for you. And thus I most humblie take my leaue. From my Cham-

The Epistle, &c.

*Chamber, this present
tenth of Aprill.*

1592.

Your Worships in the Lord,

Philip Stubs.



To the curteous Reader,
grace, mercy, & peace.

GEntle Reader, I haue
been constrained tho-
row the importunacie of my
friend to publish this little
treatise or manuel of Praiers
& Meditations; praying thee
in brotherly loue & christian
charity (which as *Paul* sayth
couereth the multitude of
sinnes) that if any thing haue
passed my penne, either tho-
row lack of due considerati-
on, or the presse thorough
want

The Preface.



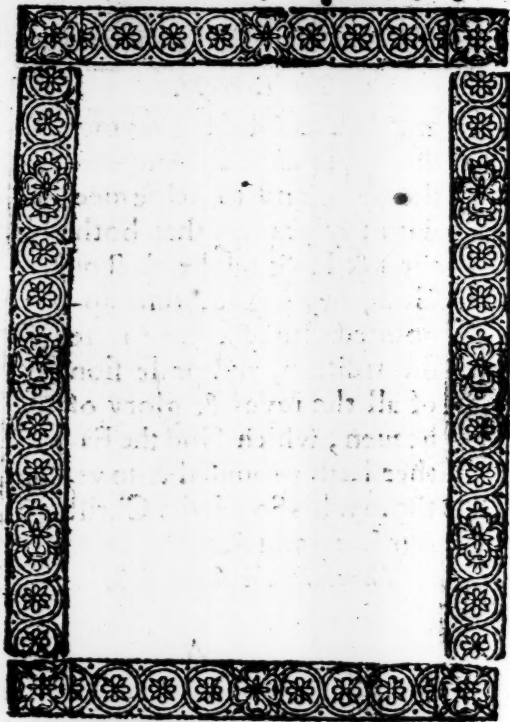
want of diligent attention :
thou wilt yet, either friendly
amend it with thy penne, or
else filently passe it over. And if
any thing seem harsh, rough
or vnfiled, think that in this
kinde of Argument I haue
not studied to be curious : &
besides impute the cause ther
of to straitnes of time, which
would not suffer me so much
as to write out my copy
twise, nor being once writ,
scarce to read it over againe.
Thus friendly Reader I com-
mit



The Preface.

mit thee to God, praying
thee to censure all things to
the best, and to helpe mee
with thy prayers that both
thou & I, & all the elect of
God, in his good time ap-
pointed, may come to the
full fruition, and possession
of all the ioyes & glory of
heauen, which God the Fa-
ther hath promised vnto vs,
thorow his Son Iesus Christ
our Lord and Sauour.

Thine in the Lord, P.S,



Certain Graces to be

said before and after

meate.



Lord our God
we giue thee
most heartie
thanks for all
the benefits which
thy mercie hath vouchsafed
to bestow vpon vs,
and namely (O Lord)
for these thy creatures
which at this present

A 2

we

Graces.

we shall receiue of thy
bountious liberalitie,
beseeching thee to giue
vs grace to be thankfull
both at this and all o-
ther times, to thy ho-
nour and glozie, and to
the refreshing of our
hungrie bodies; that
therby we may be made
more apt to doe those
things which thou hast
commanded vs in thy
holy

Graces.

holy word, Grant this
O Lord, for Jesus
Christ his sake our on-
ly Saviour, Amen.

Thanksgiving after meate.
Wee péele thee hearty
thanks, O most mer-
ciful Father for all thy
benefits most liberally
bestowed vpon vs, and
especiallly at this time,
for feeding vs so plen-
tifully : & grant (good

Al 3

fa=

Graces.

(good father) that we
neuer abuse them, but
that we maie alwaies
bse them in such sort as
wee neuer offend thy
maiesty therby. Grant
this, O father, for Jesu
Christs sake.

An other Praier before
meate.

O Gracious GOD,
vouchsafe to looke
vppon our weakenesse
and

Graces.

and want, & giue vs at
this time those things
which may be to our
comfort: sanctifie these
thy gifts, y our bodies
being replenished, we
may be thankfull, and
enioy at thy mercifull
hands, y bread of eter-
nall life, to the relieefe
of our pooz soules; tho-
row Iesus Christ.

¶ 4

An

Graces.

An other Plaier after
meate.

We thank thee, most
bountiful lord, for
this thy fatherly fee-
ding our hungry bodie:
so likewise wee beseech
thee feede our hungrie
soules with þe bread of
eternall life, that after
this life is ended, wee
may ascēd where christ
Jesus our onely Re-
deemer

Graces.

Deemer is gone before.
Amen.

A Prayer before meat.

Al things depend vpon
on thy providence
(oh Lord) to receiue at
thy gracious handes
due sustenance for the
maintenance of their
needie bodies: thou gi-
uest it them, and they
gather it, thou openest
thy

Graces.

thy hand, and they are
satisfied with all good
things. O Heauenlie
Father, which art the
verie fountaine of all
goodnes, we beseech
thee to shew thy mer-
cies vpon vs thy chil-
dren, and sanctifie these
gifts which we receiue
of thy meercifull libera-
litie, Amen.

A

Graces.

A Thanksging after
meate.

O Lord god, which of
thy great bountie
and fatherly kindnesse,
hast at this time most
plentifullie fedde our
weake bodies, giue vs
grace continuallie to
be thankfull vnto thy
Maiestie, for these and
all other thy benefits
most

Graces.

most abundantlie at
all times bestowed vpon
vs, throughe Iesus
Christ our Lord,
Amen.



A Note to knowe the be-
beginning and ending
of the iiii. Terms
of the yeare.

Hillarie Terme begin-
neth the 23. day of Ia-
nuarie: (Which if it be Sun-
day, then the next day fol-
lowing) & endeth the twelfth
of Februarie.

Easter Terme beginneth
seventeen daies after Easter,
and

and endeth foure daies after
Ascension day.

Trinitie Terme begins
the next daie after *Corpus*
Christi day, and endeth the
wednesday fortnight after.

Michaelmasse Terme be-
ginneth the ninth of Oclo-
ber (if it be not Sunday) and
endeth the eight and twenty
of Nouember.

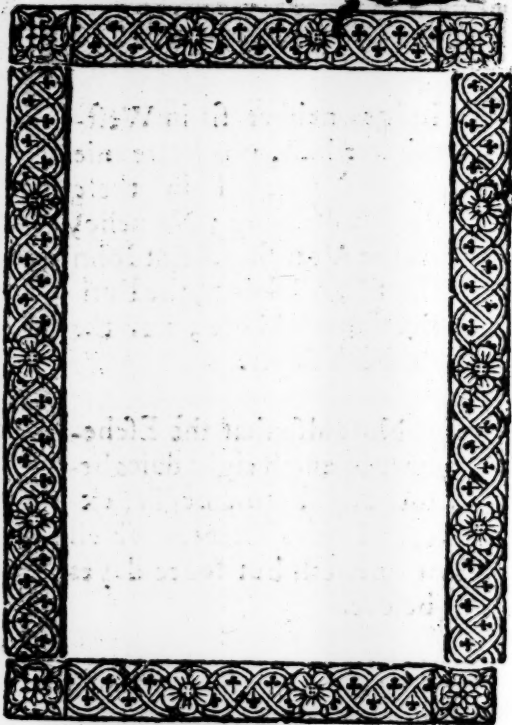
The Kinges Maiesties
Iudges



Iudges neither sit in Westminster hall, nor heare any matters pleaded in these daies following; Namelie, on the Ascension, Saint Iohn Baptist, All Saints, the Purification of Marie, nor the Sabboth dayes.

Note also that the Eschequer openeth eight daies before any Terme begin, except Trinity Terme, in which it openeth but foure dayes before.





Speciall Meditations
*for all times, and for all
persons,*



First, meditate wth
thy self, and think
what **G D D** is,
namely a diuine
spirite, or spiri-
tuall being : and therefore
will bee worshipped in spi-
rite and truth. Consider how
that this blessed **G D D**,
being distinated into a Trini-
tie of persons, the Father the
13 Sonne,

A perfect Pathway

Sonne, and the Holy-ghost,
yet all one in substance and
essence, hath by his almighty
power created all things
both spirituall and temporall,
visible and invisible whatso-
euer. And as he hath created
them by his Omnipotent
power, so doth hee rule and
gouerne them by his prou-
idence, according to his good
will and pleasure. And there-
fore think that nothing com-
meth to passe by fortune or
chance, but by his heavenly
Deter-

to Felicity.

determination, and appointment. Consider how he hath created thee after his owne similitude and likenesse, and therefore oughtest thou to bee holie, as hee is holie: how hee hath predestinate and chosen thee before the foundations of the world were layde, to euerlasting saluation in Iesus Christ: how he hath and doth iustifie thee, that is, account thee iust and righteous, by a true and liuelie fayth in the blood of his Sonne: how

A perfect Pathway



he doth call thee to the knowledge of his will, and to the state of grace; First by the secret working of his spirit: Secondly, by the preaching of his word: Thirdlie, by the sight and vse of all his creatures of infinite varietie. Consider how hee made thee holy, pure and righteous, and howe thou by thy rebellion, pride, infidelitie, and disobedience, madest thy selfe full and wicked. Then consider, how hee sent his owne sonne



to Felicity.

sonne Christ Iesus to re-
dēme thee by the shedding of
his blood. Who as he is our
onelie sauour and redēmer,
so is hee our onelie mediatoꝝ
and advocate, and onelie to
bee called vpon & invocated,
and neither Angell noꝝ saint,
martyꝝ noꝝ confessoꝝ, patri-
arch noꝝ father, noꝝ any other
creature whatsoeuer. Consi-
der with thy selfe, that as he
hath fulfilled all things for
vs, & reconciled vs to his fa-
ther, so is hee now ascended

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into

A perfect Pathway



into the heavens, to prepare
a place for vs: who at the
great daie of accounts shall
come againe in the same
shape, and with the same bo-
die that hee receiued of Ma-
rie, to iudge both the quicke
and the dead, and to rewarde
euerie man according to his
works. Think that after the
generall iudgement, our bo-
dies beeing made immortall,
and incorruptible, shall bee
vnited againe to their proper
soules, and for euer inherite
the

to Felicity.

the everlasting kingdome of
heaven, where is such ioy, as
no heart can conceiue, no
tongue, no not of Angells
themselues expresse, no: anie
penne is able to wyte. These
and the like meditations en-
doed, render most heartie
thanks vnto God in the name
of Iesus Christ, for all his
benefites and blessings in
mercie bestowed vpon thee:
pray for grace to bee thanke-
full: craue pardon for thy vn-
thankfulnesse: and the mor-

A perfect Pathway
ning appoaching, exercise thy
self as followeth.

Precepts and direction for
the Morning.

When thou artise in þ
morning, lift up thy
handes, thy eles, thy
soule and mind towards hea-
uen, giuing **G O D** heartie
thanks, as generally for all
his graces, and louing kind-
nesse shewed towards thee in
Christ: so particularly for the
quiet rest and sleepe, which
be

to Felicity.

hee hath giuen to thy bodie
that night. Pray for his pro-
tection, and assistance, in the
residue of thy life: which done
meditate thus with thy selfe.

Meditations in the
Morning.

Sie thus to thy
selfe. This daie
which I now en-
ter into, is my
last daie; nay this moment,
my last breath. I haue no
freehold of my life, no see sim-
ple of my dayes, no char-
ter

A perfect Pathway



charter of my peaces, no not
for one minute of an houre,
or twinkeling of an eye.
Death, yea infinite deaths
daylie waite vpon me, and
threaten my destruction: yea,
my body it self, carieth infinite
deaths in it selfe, being indeed
the efficient cause of it owne
misery and calamity. Think
also that as thy body now ri-
seth out of thy materiall bed,
so shall it rise out of the bed of
thy graue at the great day of
the Lord, and appeare before
the



to Felicity.

the tribunall seat of God, all
naked as euer thou wast
borne, there to receiue eýther
the incorruptible crowne of
euerlasting glozie, or else the
just rewarde of perpetuall
confusion. Thinke also, that
as thou risest forth of thy bed
to be occupied and employed
in the labours and trauailes
of this life; so shouldest thou
arise out of the bed of sinne,
to serue the liuing God, in ho-
liness & righteousness all the
dayes of thy life.

Medita-

A perfect Pathway

Meditations to be considered of, at the rising of the Sunne.

A now this temporal Sunne in the beaueus representing vnto vs the true Sonne of GOD Christ Iesus, is now risen, and hath spread his beames vpon the whole face of the earth: so shall the Sonne of God in deede, at the time appointed manifest him-selfe to the whole



to Felicity.

whole world, in vnspoke-
able glozie, to iudge all flesh,
and to rewarde enerie worke
vnder the Sunne accor-
ding to the qualitie, and me-
rite of the same. Thinke
also what infinite glozie is
treasured vp in the kingdom
of heauen, for the elect and
chosen of God, after this life.
For if this Sunne in the ele-
ment (being made but onely
for mans ble, and to giue
light to the world for a time)
bee so glorious as no mortall
eye

A perfect Pathway

eye without teares can be-
holde the same: how much
more glorious shall we thinke
the ioies of heauen to be, pre-
pared for the Elect after this
life: Thinke also, that the
Sunne in the element dooth
not onely giue light to the
world by his radiations and
glistering beames, but also
doth quicken, renewe, fructi-
fie, and cause to growe all
naturall thinges vppon the
whole face of the earth: So
Christ Iesus the Sonne of
God



to Felicity.

God, doth not onelie enlighten man by the beames of his grace, and inspiratton of his holy spirite, but also doth reuine and quicken both our bodies, and our soules, being dead in sin, and also maketh vs fruitefull and plentiful in all good workes, to the praise and glorie of his holy name. Thinke also of the immensitie of this visible Sunne: which beeing in appearance but a small creature, yet such is the Maiestie and glorie

A perfect Pathway



glozte thereof, that it conuep-
eth his beames vnto euerie
corner of the earth: and there-
by gather thou the immen-
tie and vnrmeasurableness of
the son of God Christ Iesus,
who being the verie light and
life of the worlde, sitteth as a
moſt glorious ſonne in the
middeſt of his creatures,
imparting to euerie one of
them certaine ſparkes of his
glozie, which beeing taken
away, they all conſume and
come to nothing. Theſe me-
ditations



to Felicity.

itations ended, humble thy
selfe before God, and pray as
followeth, or otherwise as the
spirit of God shall direct thy
spirit.

A prayer for the Morning.

O most glorious
God and loving
Father, who as
thou hast by thy
mightie power created all
things; so hast thou by thy
unsearchable wisdom orde-
red

A perfect Pathway



red and disposed them, as
may best serue; for the benefit
and comfort of man. I ren-
der most humble and heartie
thanks vnto thee for all thy
benefites and blessings, both
infinite, and inestimable, in
mercie bestowed vpon mee,
and namelie for the sweete
 sleepe, & quiet rest, which thou
hast giuen to my bodie this
night. And as thou hast pre-
serued me this night from all
perills and dangers; So I
beseech thee to keepe my bodie
and



to Felicity.

and my soule this day, not
onelte from committing that
which is euill in thy sight, but
also from sustaining any euill
thorow the enute of the diuel,
the malice of his ministers,
the allurements and intise-
mentes of the World, or the
corruptions of the flesh. And
for that thou hast comman-
ded every man to labour and
travaile in his vocation and
calling, for the mainetenance
of his estate, I pray thee (god
father) so to blesse all our la-
bours,

A perfect Pathway

boors, and the woꝝkes of my
handes, which I shall take in
hand in thy blessed and holie
name this day, so as they
may tend to thy honour and
gloꝛie, the reliefe of my ne-
cessities, and the common
benefite of all men. In all
which my labours, giue mee
grace (I beseech thee most
mercifull Father) to deale
faithfully, truely, & vpright-
ly, with all men, and not to
increase my wealth by any
wicked or vnlawfull meanes.

Grant

to Felicity.

Grant that I maie spende
this daie in such holie exerci-
ses as thou hast commanded
in thy blessed word, eschewing
those things which are euill,
and following those things
which bee good. And for that
we are as it were besieged, &
on euery side beset, and most
strongly assailed with manie
and puissant enemies, as the
diuell, & his members, which
are infinite, on þ one side; the
worlde & the flesh on the other:
I beseech thee (good father) to

C 3

preserue

A perfect Pathway

preſerue mee thy ſervant
from all their rage and furie,
from al their force & violence.
And to this end, let thy holie
Angels pitch their Tentes
round about mee, conduct me
by their ſpiniſtery, & preſerue
me by thy mighty power. So
ſhall I prayſe thee for ever,
in the congregation of thy
Saints, thozow Jeſus Chriſt
our Lord, Amen.

Pre-

to Felicity.

Precepts at thy going forth
of thy Chamber.

VVHEN thou goest
forth of thy cham-
ber, salute thy bed-
fellow (if thou hast
anie) giving him the time of
the day, and in meeting others
doe the like, (for civillie re-
quireth it.) And when thou
commeest into the presence of
thy Parents, not onely salute
them, but also fall downe
upon thy knees before them,

C 4

and

A perfect Pathway

and desire wem to pzate to
God to blesse the. When thou
hast so don, wash thy face & thy
hands, & keep thy body cleane
and neat, in the doing wherof
meditate thus with thy selfe.

Meditations in the washing
of ones face and hands.

As þ filthines and
pollutiō of my bo
die, is washed &
made clean by þ
element of water; so is my
body

to Felicity.

bodye, and soule purified, and washed from the spots & blemishes of sin, by the precious blood of Iesus Christ. Think also, this washing putteth me in remembrance of my baptism, of my spiritual birth and regeneration, whereby I am not onely borne anew by the operation of the Holy-ghost; but also am sealed vp to eternall saluation, throughe the redemption that is in Christ. These Meditations ended, pray as followeth.

A

A perfect Pathway

A praier to be said at the wa-
shing of ones face & hands.

Most gracious God,
and louing Father,
who hast giuen thy
onely begotten Son
Iesus Christ, to suffer death
vpon the Crosse for my re-
demption ; graunt I most
intirelie beseech thee, for his
sake, that as this my bodie
is now washed, and made
cleane by the element of ma-
teriall water ; so my body
and



to Felicity.

and soule maie both bee pur-
fied and purged from all un-
cleannesse, and filthinesse of
sinne, thozow the efficacie of
thy sonne his most precious
blood. These things thus or-
dered, go forth to thy labours
in the feare of God, doing all
things to his glorie, and the
good of thy brethren.

Meditations before and
at dinner.

When Dinner time ap-
proche th meditate thus
with

A perfect Pathway

with thy selfe, as this earthlie
tabernacle of my bodie hath
need to be relieved and sustai-
ned with common aire and
materiall foode; so my soule
hath much moze neede to bee
refreshed, and fedde with the
incorruptible food of the word
of God: and then as thou dost
hunger after the one, so thirst
thou much moze after the
other. This done draw neere
to the table with reverence;
& with hearty affection, pray
as followeth.

A

to Felicity.

A prayer before meate.

A Merciful Father,
who in thy great
wisdom and
incomprehensible
power, hast not
only created the foules of the
aire, the beasts of the earth, &
the fishes of the sea, of infinite
varietie, for the benefite and
vse of man; but also by thy
blessing dost daylie multi-
plie and increase them for the
satten-

A perfect Pathway



suffentation of mans bodies; sanctifie; I beseech thee, these thy creatures by the power of thy Word: give them strength to nourish my bodie, and mee grace to use them to thy glorie, and my owne comfort. And as in mercie thou dost feede my body with these earthly creatures, which are transitorie; so vouchsafe to feede my soule with the spirituall food of thy blessed word, which is everlasting, and neuer shall decay,



to Felicity.

decey: thorough Iesus Christ
my only Lord and Saviour,
and for his sake, Amen.

Directions how a Christian
should behaue himselfe at
the Table.

When thou comest
to the Table, shew
all obeyſance, and
courteſie, behauing
thy ſelfe modeſtly, humbly
and ſoberly, as in the pre-
ſence of God. Eat ſo much
as nature requireth, not
boſe



A perfect Parhway



how much insatiable appetite
desireth. Be spare as well of
hande, as tongue. Let thy
countenance be amiable and
pleasant toward all men. Let
all thy communication bee
seasoned with salt, as the A-
postle speaketh, that it may
give grace to the hearers, re-
membryng that we must
give accounts at the date of
iudgement for euery idle
word. Use not to laugh much,
to jest, or scoffe, to floute or
mocke, to deride, backbite, or
betract



to Felicity.

detract any man behinde his
backe, but in all things so
demeanoꝝ thy selfe, that thou
maist neither dishonour thy
God, noꝝ giue either offence,
oꝝ euill example vnto any at
the table. Dinner being en-
ded, giue God thanks as fol-
loweth.

A Thank-giuing to God
after dinner.

Most holy father, Lord
of heauen & earth, I
giue thee thanks in
D the

A perfect Pathway

the name of Iesus Chyist,
for all thy benefites and bles-
sings in mercy bestowed up-
pon mee ever since I was
borne. And namelie, O Fa-
ther, I praise thee for feeding
my hungry body, as alwaies
heretofore, so now presentlie
at this time, with earthlie
foode; beseeching thee to feede
my soule likewise with the
celestiall foode of thy holie
word. And I pray thee, good
Lord, that as thou hast given
unto mee the vse of these
earthlie

to Felicity.

earthly creatures in great
measure; so thou wilt in mis-
ericorde vouchsafe to giue vnto me
the continual supply of all my
necessities & wants, needfull
either for my soule, or bodie,
to the end, and in the end, tho-
row Iesus Christ our Lord.

Meditations after dinner.

Think thus with thy self;
As y^e month of my bo-
die wherby I receiue

D 2

coz-

A perfect Pathway|

corporeall sustenance, is flesh
and blood; so the mouth of
my soule, whereby I receiue
the spirituall soule of eternall
life, is faith towards God,
hope in his promises, and loue
from a pure heart towards y
brethren for his sake. Thinke
also, that as y Sun is now in
his highest ascent and degree,
and therefore of necessitie
must needs decline, and goe
down-ward: And as the date
also is now at the midst, or
full, and therefore must needs
in

to Felicity.

in like manner draw towards
his end; so my life being once
come to his full ripenesse and
maturitie, must of force draw
towards his ende, which is
death, the reward or salarie
of sinne. These things thus
performed, dispose thy selfe
to the labors of thy vocation,
as before, doing all things to
the glorie of him that made
thee, and one day will require
a strait account of thee for all
thy labours & works done vn-
der the Sunne.

D 3

Directi-

A perfect Pathway

Directions how to behaue
thy selfe before and after
Supper.

When the daie is ended, and the night approacheth, first praise God, for thy preservation, and protection that day, beseeching him to take like care over thee that night. This done arraign thy selfe (as it were) at the barre, and call thy conscience to accounts, demanding of thy self,

to Felicity .

as well what good thou hast omitted, and hast not done, as the euill which thou hast committed, & shouldest not haue done. And as well repent for the one, as be sorrowfull for the other. This done, praye towards the table in reuerent manner, praying **G D D** to sanctifie his creatures vnto thee, either in this, or the like forme.

D 4

A

A perfect Pathway

A Thank-giuing to God
before Supper.

Father of mercie, and God
of all truth, looke downe
I beseech thee, from the
thzone of thy beauenly pa-
lace vpon vs thy humble ser-
uants, albett most wretched
and miserable sinners: sanc-
tifie both our bodies and
soules, by the pzeence of thy
holie Spirit, and blesse these
thy creatures vnto vs: giue
them

to Felicity.

them strength to nourish our
bodies, and our bodies their
naturall powers and foze,
enerie member to perfozme
his office and dutie, accordyng
as thou hast appointed, & as
thou seest to bee best for thy
glozie, and the sustaining and
repairing of our ruinous and
weake natures. And we praye
thee good father also, to feede
our soules with the celestiall
Manna of thy blessed worde,
and bring vs once to suppe
with thee in the kingdome of
heauen

A perfect Pathway

heauen, thozow the pꛑecious
blond of Iesus Chꛑist.

Then fall to thy meate re-
uerently, as befoꛑe at din-
ner, hauing alwaies a dili-
gent eye, that thou abuse not
the good creatures of G D,
by gluttony, drunkenneſſe,
gourmandiſe, oꛑ any other
kinde of riot, oꛑ exceſſe. Re-
member that nature is ſatis-
fied with a little; and what is
moꛑe then will ſuffice nature,
is ſuperfluous, and one daie
thou ſhalt be accomptable foꛑ
it,

to Felicity.

it, to the great Judge of all
the earth. Thy body beeing
satisfied, forget not to relieue
the necessities of the Saints,
according to thy abilitie, that
God maie blesse thee, & mu-
ltiplye thy Doze. When Sup-
per is ended, giue god thanks,
either as followeth, or other-
wise, as the spirit of God shall
illuminate thy heart.

A

A perfect Pathway

A Thank-giving to God
after Supper.

O Lord our God most
gracious & holy father,
we render all praise &
thank-giving to thy
soveraigne maiesty, for all thy
benefites and blessings so
plentifully bestowed vpon
vs. And namelie we thanke
thee (holy father) for these thy
good creatures, which thou
hast at this present in full
measure

to Felicity.

measure given vnto vs. O Lord make vs thankesfull for them, & pardon our vnbanksfullnesse, for Iesus Christ his sake. Finally, make vs all thy true, obedient & faithfull seruants, and bring vs to euerlasting life in thy good time, for thy great mercies sake in thy beloued, Amen.

Directions of Christian behaviour
after supper.

The rest of the time
after Supper, vntill
thou goest to bedde,
spend

A perfect Pathway



spend with thy familie, either
in singing of Psalmes, and
spirituall songs, singing and
making melodie to the Lord
in your hearts: or else in con-
ferring, reasoning, disputing
and talking of the word of
God, in reading, expounding,
or interpreting of the same.
Then, when time calleth thee
to goe to bed, call thy whole
householde together in some
convenient place, make pub-
like confession of your sinnes
to God the Father, crave
pardon



to Felicity.

pardon and forgiveness for
Jesus Christs sake, and praye
for grace to be able to resist
sin hereafter, with all means,
waies, & allurements leading
thereunto. Which done, re-
paire to thy chamber, resol-
ving with thy selfe these and
thelike things following.

Meditations when thou co-
mest into thy chamber.

When thou art come in-
to thy chamber, call to
thy

A perfect Pathway

thy remembrance what euill
thou hast committed that daie
past, either in thought, word,
or deed, towards G D D, or
towards man, and the good
which thou shouldest haue
done, and hast not done. If
thou hast séene or heard anie
good thing in any man, note
it, learne it, and praise for
grace to follow it. If againe
thou hast séene or heard anie
euill in anie man, note it in
thy selfe, and pray for grace
to eschue it. This done kneele
downe

to Felicity.

doe by thy bed side con-
fesse thy sins to **G D D** the
Father, craue pardon for Je-
sus Christ his sake, and praye
to him to protect thee that
night, and to defende thee
vnder the shadowe of his
wings, from all perilles and
daungers both bodilie and
ghostly. Thy clothes being
put off, meditate thus with
thy selfe. Oh what a filthy,
uncleane, and vgglesome
carkasse doe I beare about
with me, that for very shame

C

had



A perfect Pathway



had neede to bee conered with garments: Thinke also from what an excellent State and dignity) in regard of thy first creation) thou art fallen, by reason of the filthines of sin. Then thinke, that if thy apparell were giuen thee for vertic necessities sake, to cover and hide thy shame with all, what reason hast thou to be proud thereof: For should a begger be proude of the cloutes that tozap his sores: Thinke also, that as thou canst



to Felicity.

canst not without thy shame
stand before men, naked and
bare, so canst thou not with-
out shame and confusion of
face, stand before the maiestie
of God, except thou be clothed
& inuested with the garment
of Christs righteousness and
holinesse. Finally thinke, that
as thou putttest off, and layest
aside thy materiall garment:
so shalt thou once, and perad-
venture before thou risest a-
gaine, put off, and lay away
the earthly mansion of thy
body,

¶ 2

body,

A perfect Pathway

body, comitting it to mother
earth againe, from thence it
first came. When sleep com-
meth vpon thee, pray as fol-
loweth.

A Prayer when sleepe com-
meth vpon one.

Most mercifull Fa-
ther, with whome
there is no difference
of time, no; vari-
etie of chaunge, seeing thou
hast appointed the daie for
man to trauaile in, and the
night

to Felicity.

nigt for him to take his naturall rest, I beseech thee that as my bodie hath beene occupped and employed this daie in the labours of this life, so it maie receiue by thy protection quiet rest and sleepe this night, that I may be the abler to goe forwarde in the exercise of good woꝝks, in the rest of my life that I haue to liue, to the praise and glozie of thy blessed name: and in this my sleepe defend mee, I beseech thee from all perilles

¶ 3

and

A perfect Pathway



and dangers, and from all
the force and violence of mine
enemies both spirituall and
coꝝpozall. And as it maie
please thee to graunt to my
bodie quiet rest and sleepe; so
let it be thy good pleasure to
make my soule watchfull and
vigilant to waite vpon thee,
and diligently to looke for the
comming of thy deare sonne
Jesus Christ vnto iudgement
for my redemption. Keepe
me from all fearefull dreames,
and visions, from all phanta-
sticall



to Felicity.

Allicall apparitions, & diuelish
illusions of the wicked ene-
mie, from all carnall polluti-
ons, & vngodlie suggestions
of the wicked spirite. Finally
grant, that both my bodie
and my soule, resting vnder
thy diuine protection, may be
safe from all enmitie and
hostilitie whatsoener, and at
the last maie attaine enerla-
sting life, thorough Iesus
Christ my onelie Saviour
and Redēmer. This done,
dispose thy selfe to rest, com-

¶ 4

mit.



A perfect Pathway



muting both thy bodie and
soule into the hands of God,
praying him to be thy watch-
man that night. Then descend
thou into the secrets closets
and private chambers of thine
heart, search every place, and
ransacke everie corner : and
if thou findest anie filthinesse
or uncleannesse therein (as in-
deed thou shalt finde nothing
else) wash it away with the
teares of repentance, & make
it cleane with the bryme of
contrition. Then thinke thus
with



to Felicity.

with thy selfe ; My bed doth
represent vnto me my grane,
wherein I must once sleepe;
and the clothes, the earth,
wherewithall I shall shortly
be couered in my sepulchre or
grane : And as these fleas
and gnats do bite and gnaw
my skinne , so shall the
wormes eat and consume
the frame of my bodie , in the
dust of the earth, when the
Lord doth please . When the
morning beginneth to dawn
and the daystarre to appeare,
thinke

A perfect Pathway

thinke thus ; As now the
morning commeth on, and
the daie starre beginneth to
appeare, so shall Christ Iesus
the true morning star, shew
himselfe at the time appoin-
ted of his father, to iudge
both the quicke and the dead.
And when thou hearest the
crowing of the Cocke, the
sounding of belles, or anye
other noise whatsoeuer, think
alwaies, that thou hearest the
Trumpe of the Archangell
sound, saying : Arise you dead
and

to Felicity.

and come vnto iudgement.
When thou awakest out of
ſleepe, praye to this effecte as
followeth.

A Praier when one awakes
out of sleepe.

Mercifull father, grant
that as thou hast now
awaked my earthly body out
of this naturall ſleepe, so thou
wilt also bouchſafe to raiſe me
vp from the ſleep of ſin, and in
the general reſurrection of all
fleſh.

A perfect Pathway

flesh, to eternall life, throꝝ
Iesus Christ my only Saut-
our and Redeemer.

Meditations when one awa-
keth out of sleepe.

CALL to remembrance
the vnspeakeable ioye,
glorie and beatitude,
y^e ineffable blessednes,
comfort and solace, which all
the chosen of God haue, and
shall haue for ever after this
life, in the kingdome of hea-
uen.

to Felicity.

men. I thinke also of the wonderfull beaultie that our bodies shall have and inioy at the daie of iudgement, beeing made like to the glozious body of Christ Iesus, & shining for ever as the Sun, in the kingdome of heauen.

A Praier to be said at the
breakē of the day.

O Lord thou great
and everlasting light,
from whom all other
lights



A perfect Pathway

lights whatsoener haue their
being, & in comparison of t^ho,
they are all but grosse & palpa-
ble darknes, illuminate my
heart, & inlighten my vnder-
standing with t^hy perfect know-
ledge of t^hy blessed will. And
grant that I, knowing it, may
faithfully obey t^hee in t^he same
all the daies of my life, that at
the last I may attaine to ever-
lasting rest both of body and
soule, thorough Iesus Christ
our Lord, Amen.

Medita-



to Felicity.

Meditations at the appearing of the day.

Thinke with thy selfe, that as thy earthlie bodie is guided and governed by thy bodily eyes; so, and much more, is thy soule and intnd gaibed, ruled and governed by the direction and inspiration of Gods holie spirit. And therefore by how much more pretious the eye of the soule is, then the eye of the

A perfect pathway

the eye of the bodie ; so much
moze is the one to bee sought
for, then the other. Think that
brute beasts haue their bodily
eyes, but man hath not only
corporeall eyes, but spirituall
also, whereby he discerneth
strange things, conceiveth
infinite things, vnderstandeth
wonderfull things, beleeueth
all things, & hopeth all things.
This done, pray as followeth.

A

to Felicity.

A Praier when one ariseth
forth of his bed.

I Confesse, most merciful fa-
ther, our first Parents by
Anne thre: themselves, and
all their posterity, into a most
deadlie lethargie, and sleep of
sinne; whome thou in great
mercie vouchsafedst to re-
store againe, and renew by
the death of thy sonne. Grant
holie father, that as thou hast
now raysed my bodie from
¶ corpa

A perfect Pathway

corporeall sleepe ; so thou wilt
also raise both my bodie and
soule , from the deadlie sleepe
of sinne , and at the last from
the dust of the earth , to dwell
with thee for ever , in thy ever-
lasting kingdome , thorough
Jesus Christ.

Meditations when one ari-
seeth out of his bed.

Think , that as thou now
ariseest forth of thy bed ,
so shouldest thou rise
from

to Felicity.

from sinne , to serue the li-
uing God in holinesse and
righteousnesse all the dayes
of thy life. Thinke also, that
thy bodie shall rise againe in
the end of the woꝛld, either to
euerlasting life (if thou doe
well) oꝛ to euerlasting death
(if thou do euil.) Then put on
thy apparell , in the dooing
whereof pray thus.

¶ 2

A

A perfect Pathway

A praier to be said at the putting on of a mans clothes.

Blessed father, seeing my natural corruptions filthines is such, & so great, that of necessity it must be covered wth these earthlie garments, least otherwise my nakednes and shame should appeare to the wo^{ld}; cloath mee, I beseech thee, with the garments of Christs righteousnesse and holines



to Felicity.

holinesse, and impute not vnto
me my manifold finnes and
offences, least I receiue not
shame onelke, but euerblessing
confusion both of body & soule,
as a iust reward and guerdon
for my deserts.

Christian directions for the
Morning.

Vhen thou hast at-
tired thy selfe de-
cently and come-
ly, not pompously,
nor proudly, goe forth of thy
cham.

A perfect Path way

chamber, and if thou beeſt a
maſter of a houſehoulde, call
thy familie together, confeſſe
your ſinnes, craue pardon
for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake,
pray for grace to reſiſt ſinne
hereafter, prayſe God for all
his benefites, and bleſſings
in mercie beſlowed vpon
you, pray for continuance of
them. Thanke him for your
protection that night, beſee-
ching him to protect you that
day, and to bleſſe all your
wozkes and labours. And fi-
nally

to Felicity.

nally, desire him to keepe and defend you that day, and euer from all perils and dangers, both bodily and ghostly what-soeuer, and to bring you to euerlasting life at the time appointed, through the precious blood of Iesus Christ. This done, goe forth to thy labours in the feare of God, doing all things with single eye, and good conscience, to the praise of him that made thee; being assured that as in mercie hee will not leaue the least

¶ 4

god

A perfect pathway

god worke that weede vne-
warded : so in iustice hee will
not leaue the least euill that
wee doe commit, either in
thought, word, or deed, unpun-
ished, except we repent. To
God therefore our Father, to
Christ Iesus our Saviour
and redeemer, and to God the
Holle-ghost our Comforter,
and Sanctifier, three persons
and one true and euerlasting
God, be all honour, glozie,
praise, dominion & thanksgit-
ing for euermore. Amen.

A

A SHORT
Treatise, of praiers
and Supplica-
tions;

COMPRISING
a briefe summe of all such
things as we stand
in need of in this
life.

By the same Author,
P. S. Gent.





A PRAIER FOR
the Morning.

Give thee thanks
most mercifull fa-
ther, for all thy
tender mercies, &
loving kindnesse.

Shewed towards me in Christ
Jesus ever since I was borne:
and namely for the quiet rest
& sleepe which thou hast given
to my bodie this night, and
for preserving of mee from
infinite

A perfect Pathway



infinite perilles and dangers
whereunto poore man is sub-
iect in this life. And I beseech
thee holie father, to extend thy
louing fauour towards mee
this day : defend me from all
mine enemies both bodilie
and ghostlie : blesse all the
wozkes of my hands : grant
good issue and good successe
vnto mee, in all my godlie
actions, enterprises and af-
faires. And aboue all things
giue me a willing heart, and
a readie mind to serue thee, in
true

to Felicity.

true holinesse and righteousness all the dayes of my life; that I glorifying thee heere upon earth, may be glorified of thee for ever in heauen, thozow Iesus Christ our lord, Amen.

A Prayer for the Euening.

MOST gracious
G O D, I praye
thee thozough Iesus
Christ, for defen-
ding of mee this date from
all

A perfect Pathway



all dangers of bodie and soule,
and for all thy other benefites
which thou hast plentifully
bestowed vpon me. And I
pray thee, good father, to par-
don and forgive mee all my
sinnes and wickednes wherein
I haue offended thy diuine
maiestie, either this date, or
anie day of my life hereto-
fore, euen to this present
houre. And receiue mee this
night into thy tuition and
protection, that my enemies
maie haue no power ouer
mee.



to Felicity.

mee , noꝛ in any sort pꝛenaile
agaĩst mee : but that my bo-
dy by thy gracious goodnesse,
enjoying quiet sleepe , my
minde, soule, and sprite may
continually waite vpon thee,
and through faith behold thy
blessed maiestie with an as-
sured confidence, and an in-
fallible hope, after this fraile
and transitorie life ended, to
possesse that immortall and
euerlasting glorie wherein
thou eternallie reigneſt : to
whome bee all honour and
glo-

A perfect Pathway

glory for evermore.

A generall confession of our
sins to God the Father, neces-
sary to be said at
all times.

O eternall God,
father of our Lord
Jesus Christ,
without begin-
ning or ending, and of whome
all things have their being;
I a poore wretched and mis-
erable sinner, lamenting my
sins from the bottome of
my

to Felicity.

my heart, prostrate my selfe
before the footestoolle of thy
blessed maiestie, acknowledging and confessing, that I
am a most grieuous sinner,
begot, conceived, and borne
in sinne, and living in all cor-
ruption and iniquitie, so that
in me there is no goodnesse:
yea, my whole nature is so
corrupt, that my verie righ-
teousnesse it selfe is nothing
but sin in thy sight: wherefore
deare father, setting apart
all my own pretended merits



A perfect Pathway



as insufficient to purchase
thy sauior, I come vnto thee in
the name of thy beloued son
Iesus Christ (who is made
vnto vs, holinesse, righteous-
nesse, sanctification, and re-
demption) most humbly be-
séeching thee for his precious
bloud-shedding, and for his
bitter death and passion, to
haue mercie vpon me: pardon
and forgieue me all my sinnes
and wickednes, both originall
& actuell, of thoughts, words,
woorkes and deedes, of pre-
somp-

to Felicity.

sumption, of frailtie, of ignorance, and of knowledge, or howsoever els committed against thy soveraigne maiestie, ever since I was bozne. Good father blot them out of thy remembrance, hide them in the bloudie wounds of thy sonne, wash them away in the streames of his blood. Accept his holinesse for my holinesse, his righteousness for my righteousness, and his precious blood as a full recompence, satisfaction and

A perfect Pathway



propitiation for all my finnes.
And as I craue pardon for all
my finnes past ; so I beseech
thee, for thy great mercies
take in Iesus Christ, giue me
grace, power and strength, to
resist sinne hereafter, with all
occasions, meanes, waies,
and allurementes leading
therunto . And because (oh
Lord) without faith nothing
can please thee, giue mee, I
beseech thee, a true, perfect and
a iustifying faith, without
the which no man shall see thee
blessed.



to Felicity.

blesſed face. Strengthen this
faith in mee ſoꝛ ever to the
end, & in the end: grant me thy
holie ſpirit truelie to repent,
and moſt heartily to ſozrow
foꝛ the multitude and hey-
nouſneſſe of my tranſgreſſi-
ons. Woꝛke in me alſo (good
father) an inwarde hatred,
lothing and deſtation vnto
ſinne; that I walking befoꝛe
thee with vprightnes of heart,
maie after the diſſolution of
this my earthlie tabernacle,
inherit eternall gloꝛie in the

A perfect Pathway
heauens, thozow y merits of
the Son Chriſt Ieſus, Amen.

A Confession of our ſins to
Chriſt Ieſus our Sauour,
with deſire of for-
giuenesse.

O Sweet Ieſus, oh moſt
glorious Ieſus, ſonne
of the eternal G D D,
who cameſt into this
world to take away y heauie
burthen of them that were le-
den, to ſeeke them that were
loſt,

to Felicity.

lost, and to call sinners to
repentance, to giue life to
the faithfull, and to be a me-
diatour betweene God and
man; I a poore and miserable
sinner, lamenting my sinne
from the bottom of my heart,
most intirelle besech thee for
thy infinite mercies sake, ac-
cording to thy accustomed
woont, to pardon and forgive
me all mine offences, sinnes
and wickednesse, of what na-
ture or kind, or how manie or
griuous soeuer they be, and

G 4

to

A perfect Pathway



to be my mediator and ad-
vocate to God thy father, to
appease his wrath, to satisfie
his iustice, and to reconcile
mee into his favour againe.
Regenerate, renew, and
sanctifie my heart (sweet Je-
sus) with thy holie spirit, the
spirit of trueth, that I maie
proceed and go forward from
vertue to vertue, from grace
to grace, from holinesse to
holinesse, until I arrive in the
kingdome of heauen, the
most quiet and happy haven
and

to Felicity.

and port of all peace, thozow
the merits of thy blood.

A fruitfull Praier to God the
Holy-ghost.

O most glozious spi-
rite of the most high
G D D, who being
true and euerlasting
God, with God the father,
and God the Son, proceedest
from them both, who also by
thy heavenly inspiration and
breathing, dost quicken them
that befoze were dead in sin.
comfor-

A perfect Pathway

comfortest them that were
comfortlesse, inlightnest them
that were ignozant, bringest
into the way of truth all such
as haue erred and are decei-
ued, and plentifullic enrichest
them with vnspeakable gra-
ces, that pray vnto thee in the
name and mediation of Iesus
Christ; Worshipp my heart with
the fire of thy loue, mortifie
in mee whatsoever is not
thine, garnish my mind with
all heauenlie and spirituall
treasures, that I may be a
most

to Felicity.

most beautifull temple for thy
blessed maiestie to dwell in.
Leade me into all truth, oh
thou euermassing spirite of
euermassing truth, and suffer
me not to bee carried about
with euerie blast of strange
doctrine, but alwaies to re-
maine and abide in that doc-
trine, whereof thou onelie art
the authour. Inarme my
soule against the popsoned
suggestions, and crasty temp-
tations of the diuell, against
the vaine pleasures and de-
ceivable

A perfect Pathway

ceivable delights of this life,
and against the filthy lustes
of this my cankered flesh, that
I being indued and replent-
shed with thy holie breath,
may doe that which is plea-
sant and acceptable vnto thee:
to whom be all honour, glozy,
and thankesgiving for ever,
Amen.

A Prayer for the Kings
Maiestie.

We render all praise
& thanks to thee, ob
King

to Felicity.

king of all kings, and gouernour of all things, for that in the multitude of thy mercyes thou hast vouchesafe to place over vs thy little flock, so godly & vertuous a guide, so gracious & wise a Prince, as the world neuer had his Peere. And we humbly pray thee, hely father, with thy favourable countenance to behold the same thy seruant, our soueraigne Lord and gouerner. And so sanctifie his heart with the grace of thy holie

A perfect Pathway



holie spirite, that hee maye
bend all his studie and ende-
uour to the setting forth of thy
glozie, & maintenance of thy
holie religion, the aduance-
ment of true vertue and god-
lines, the supplanting of vice,
and commoditie of this his
Majesties Common weale
vnder the; kinde in him a fer-
uent zeale of thy glozie, and a
beheement desire to establish
whatsoever is defectiue or
wanteth in this thy Church &
vineyard in England, for the
true



to Felicity .

true & sincere discipline & go-
uernment of thy church & cō-
mon wealth . Saue & defend
him from all fozeign power,
and authoritie, frō all traite-
rous conspiracies, plots and
pzaetises, either of papists, A-
thelists, or any other sectaries
whatsoever. Give him godlie,
wise, & religious counsaillers,
such as may respect only thy
glozy ; that his Maistie ru-
ling according to thy wil, they
counselling according to the
inspiration of thy holy spirit,
and

A perfect Pathway

and we his subjects faithfullie
obeying, mate altogether in
the end receive the incorrup-
tible crowne of eternall glo-
rie in the heauenlie Hierusa-
lem, thorough Iesus Christ
our Lord, Amen.

A prayer to be said of al such
as be magistrates and ru-
lers in the Common-
wealth.

FORASMUCH as it hath
pleased thee, oh eter-
nall G D D, ruler of all
things

to Felicity.

kings & kingdomes, to constitute & appoint me (though altogether unworthy) to be a ruler & gouernour of thy people vnder my Soueraigne, I beseech thee, giue me grace, so to execute my office, and minister iustice in the common wealch, that I may please thee in all things, intortie no man, oppresse no man, dauntno no man, neither in booke nor in goods, but by thy gracions working, maye iudge iustlie, neither fauoring
the

A perfect Pathway



the rich noz mighty for desire
of gifts, noz yet despising the
pooze for want of rewardes;
that I seeking thy gloze, the
advancement of thy holie
Word, and Gospell, and the
common benefite of all men,
may be found acceptable vn-
to thee in thy Beloued, and
maie heare that sweete har-
nest song, Well good seruant,
thou hast beene faithfull in
small things of this life, (which
are but vanities & trifles to
things in the life to come) en-
ter



to Felicity.

ter into the top of the Lord.
Oh Lord let it be so for Iesus
Christ his sake, Amen.

A Prayer for the increase of
Faith,

O Almighty GOD,
and loving Father in
JESUS Christ,
by whose holie worde
we are taught, that with-
out faich it is vnpossible for
to please thee; boughsate
therefore (most mercifull
Lord

A perfect Pathway



Lord God) to plant in my heart & minde, a true, perfect, and iustifying faith, that I maie certaine lie knowe thee, the onely true God, and him whome thou hast sent Jesus Christ, with thy holie spirite our comforter, sanctifier, regeneratoz, instructor, and teacher. Increase this faith in me (O Lord) daylie more and more, that it maie growe vp to full perfection, accompanied with good woꝝkes, without the which no man shall



to Felicity.

Shall see thy glozie. Banish
farre from me, sweet father,
all infidelitie and incredulitie,
all mistrust, and distrust, all
doubting and wauering: in
stead whereof, plant in my
heart a constant hope, with a
careful keeping of all thy com-
mandements, that I doing
that which is good and accep-
table before thee, may be glozi-
fied of thee in þe end, in þe king-
dome of heauen, thorow Je-
sus Christ our Lord.

A perfect Pathway

A Prayer against the diuell,
the world and the flesh.

Most mercifull father,
I a poore wretched &
miserable sinner, hum-
bly beseech thee, to send
me from thy holy heauens, both
power and strength to resist
and withstand all the assaults,
fiery dartes and subtle temp-
tations of the diuell, who like
a roaring Lion, goeth about
seeking to deuoure me. Give
me



to Felicity.

me also thy holie spirit, with
grace and strength to resist all
the raging lustes, and filthy
concupiscences of the flesh,
with all the vanities of this
wicked world; that being by
thy onelie helpe acquitted and
freed, from the force and vio-
lence of these and all other my
mortal enemies, I may serue
thee in holines and righteous-
nesse all the dayes of my life,
Thozow Christ our Lord.

A perfect Pathway

A Praier for Gods direction
*in all things which we
take in hand.*

O Lord my God, I
doe acknowledge and
freely confesse my owne
great blindness, and
ignorance, and the wilfull
obstinacie of my corrupt na-
ture, which seeketh rather to
fulfill the fantasies & deuises
of my owne braine, then the
motions of thy holie spirite,
and rather to vse humane
help

to Felicity.

help, then to craue thy diuine
ayde. Wherefore, holie father,
vouchsafe I beseech thee, to
establish in my heart, godlie
feare, with most sincere obe-
dience to thy holy ordinaunces,
statutes and lawes. And for
that without thy blessing no-
thing can prosper, or come to
good effect, blesse all the workes
of my hands, all my labours,
actions and affaires, which I
shall take in hand in thy holie
name, according to thy will,
for the necessarie mainie-
nance

A perfect Pathway

naunce of my pooze estate.
Grant me good issue, and good
successe in them for thy glorie of
thy holy name, that I hauing
plenty of al good things in this
life, may be rich and plentiful
in all good works, to the glorie
of thy holy name, and profit
of my brethren, through Je-
sus Christ our Lord.

A Prayer for a competent &
a necessary lining.

O Lord our GOD, most
gracious & holic father,
whose

to Felicity.

whose loue towardes man in
Christ Iesus, is infinite and
unspeakable, & whose tender
care ouer him is such, that
thou hast promised that who-
soeuer beleueth in thee, de-
pendeth vpon thy prou-
dence, and seeketh his reliefe
at thy blessed handes, shall
neuer want anie good thing,
eithers necessarie for soule or
bodie: Therefore most gra-
cious Father, I thy helie
creature, of my selfe poore,
vnsouertie and nakednesse
it



A perfect Pathway



it selfe, most intirelie beseech
thee, for Iesus Christ his sake,
that thou wilt giue vnto mee
a competent and a necessarie
liuing, as meate, drinke and
cloth, with all other things
needfull for my bodie; that
pinching pouertie appzele
mee not, nor that I be not
drawen to attempt wicked
and vnlawfull meanes for
the maintenance of my life.
To this end therefore (good
father) blesse my noze, and
replenish my basket with thy
blessings,



to Felicity.

blessings, that I maie be able
thorow thy benefittall libe-
ralitie, to line out of debt and
danger of all men, and to
occupie my selfe in the exer-
cise & practise of good woorkes,
to the reliefe of them that haue
neede, and the setting forth of
thy honoꝛ & glory, thorow Je-
sus Chyist our Lord, Amen.

A

A perfect Pathway

A Prayer for grace that wee
*may vse our wealth to the
glory of God.*

A Almighty and most
merciesfull Father,
the onelie giuer of all
good thinges, the
onelie state and comfort of all
mankinde, giue mee grace
thy humble seruant, that
as thou hast blessed my store,
and increased my wealth ex-
ceedingly, farre beyonde ex-
pectation,
tion,



to Felicity.

tion, inlomuch as I haue not
onells sufficient to supplie
mine owne wants, but also
enough to relieue others that
haue need: so I beseech thee to
remooue farre from mee all
couetous desires of lucre and
gaine, and giue me a willing
minde, and readie desire to
distribute to the necessitie of
thy Saints, according to the
abondance of my wealth, to
feede the hungrie, to clothe the
naked, to harbour the har-
bourlesse, to visite the sicke
and

A perfect Pathway



and needie, and to doe all other
good works which thou requi-
rest of me in this life, that I
live not to my selfe, and for
my selfe onelie, but to the
helpe and reliefe of all that
haue néede of my furtherance
in this life; that treasuring
vp for my selfe a good founda-
tion in the kingdome of
heaven, I may inherite eter-
nall life through Iesus Christ
my onely Lord and Saviour,
Amen.

A



to Felicity.

A praier to besaid of women
with child.

Almightie and most
mercyfull Father,
Creatoz of heauen
and earch, who in
the beginning for the sinne of
our first parents, diddest laie
a most heauie iudgement vp-
on the Anfull daughters of
disobedient Eve, namelis,
that in sorrow & great paines
wee should bring forth our
fruit. And for that our nature

¶

is

A perfect Pathway



is weake, and our sex fraile
& altogether vnable to beare
the pangs, the shrowes and
throwes, which accompanie
vs poore women in these our
travailes, I most humbly
beseech thee (belie Father)
for Iesus Christ his sake, that
thou wilt extend to mee, and
to all others in the like case,
thy mercie and loving fauor,
to mitigate the paines there-
of, that wee may be able to
sustaine and to indure the
pangs and paines of our tra-
uailes

to Felicity.

uantes at the appointed time,
that the fruitte of my wombe
wherewith I am now laden,
maie graciously bee deliue-
red from my weake and feeble
bodie, to thy praise and glorie,
and my comfort. Send vs
(goodfather) both easie, and
speedie deliuerance, that we
maie become ioyfull mothers,
of happie chilozen. Grant
both to me, and to all others,
who by thy blessing haue con-
ceined with childe, strength
to bring forth that which thy
I 2 almighty



A perfect Pathway



almightie hand hath so wonderfullie wrought in vs. Bee present with vs (good Lord) in all our trauailes, helpe vs, and most gracionslie deliuer vs. Let thy mightie power and outstretched arme, be no lesse manifested in the deliuerie, then it was, and is, in the forming, and framing of thy creature in our wombs: and after our deliuerie boughsate (holie father) to restore vs to our former strength, and abillitie of bodie againe, that we
may



to Felicity.

maye sing vnto thee the
psalmes of praise and thank-
giving all the daies of our
liues, thozough Iesus Christ
our Lord.

A Prayer for godly
Wisedome.

Help Father, who art
wisdom it selfe, light
it selfe, and understan-
ding it selfe, bountifull
to giue vnto me thy help crea-
ture, that excellent gift of
33 wise.

A perfect Pathway



wisedome, direction and vnderstanding, replenish my heart with all heauenly prudence, renew a right spirite within me, and write thy holie lawes in the tables of my heart, by the finger of thy holy spirit, that I walke not in the waies of errour, neither yet bee carried awaie with enerie blast of vain doctrine. Sweet father, giue mee this blessed gift of heauenly wisedome, that I maye perfectly knowe and vnderstand what thy holie

to Felicity .

holte will and pleasure is,
in all things : and grant that
I knowing it, may faithfully
obey it, and walke in the true
observation thereof all the
dayes of my life ; that having
the lampe of loue, and the
candle of true faith continu-
allie burning, in the secreete
closets of my heart, I maye
at the last enter with thine
Cher into the kingdome of
heauen, purchased with the
blood of thy sonne to all faith-
full beleeuers. To thee there.

A perfect Pathway

fore with thy deer Sonne Je-
sus Christ, & thy holy Spirit,
be all honour and glorie for e-
uer, Amen.

A Praier against all kind
of Enemies.

O Lord, such is y^e ma-
lice of Satan, that he
not onely seeketh my
confusion himself, but
also raiseth vp his members,
wicked men, in number ma-
ny, in power strong & mighty,
to practise my destructiō: ther-
fore

to Felicity.

foze (holte father) receiue me
into thy protection, and safe-
gard: Drive backe and con-
found them all that rise vp
agairst me: fight for mee a-
gairst them that fight a-
gairst me. Strike a terrour
into their harts (oh Lord) that
they may not dare to lift vp a
hand agairst me. Turne their
wicked imaginations & devi-
ses from me, either to their
amendment, or to their
owne confusion. Let all
the wordes which they
utter

A perfect Pathway



utter to my discredite, rebound to their owne shame. Let thy holie Angelles pitch their tents about me, and defende mee from the rage and furie of all my enemies; that they make, not onelie not prenaile against me, but also make shie before my face, by the mightie power of thine owne right arme. God Father, looke vpon them, either in mercie to conuert them, and to turne their hearts, or else in iustice to confounde them,



to Felicity.

them, þ they neuer haue pow-
er to hurt me thy seruant, ey-
ther in body, goods, or name: so
shall I praise thee for ever, tho-
rough Iesus Christ my onelie
Lord and Santo, Amen.

A Praier when one taketh a
journey in hand.



Lord God, who
not onely guidest
and directest all
those that walke
and traualle in this worlde,
but also defendest them from
infinite



A perfect Pathway



infinite perilles and dangers
in the same : vouchsafe to
holde thy holie hand of pro-
tection ouer me, and defende
mee from all hostilitie and en-
mitie whatsoeuer in this my
intended iourney, which by
thy diuine assistance I pur-
pose to take in hand at this
time. And because (O Lord)
my enemies are manye and
strong in this world, which lie
in waite for me, and seeke
my destruction, I most hum-
ble beseech thee for Iesus
Christ



to Felicity.

Chzist his sake, to command
thy holie Angels to conduct
me, by their ministerie, and
to p̄serue me by thy mighty
power: let them goe before
me, and deliuer me, as they
did thy seruant Tobias tra-
uailing into a strange coun-
trie. Prosper me also in this
my tourney (good father) that
my businesse may haue good
successe, and that I may by
thy blessed assistance retorne
home againe safe & sound, both
in body and soule, to glorie
thee

A perfect Pathway

thee the onlie true God : to
whom with thy deare Sonne
Jesus Christ, and the holie
comforter, be all honour, and
glorie for evermore.

A Thank-giuing to God af-
ter ones returne home from
at the end of his journey.

Most holie Father, I
praise thee in thy Son
Jesus Christ, for that it
hath pleased thee of thy
singular grace & goodnesse, to
give

to Felicity.

gine mee prosperous & happie
retaine home againe from
this my iourney, and for pre-
seruing of me from all perils
and dangers in the same: as
namelie from drowning by
water, from stroke of thun-
der, and blasts of lightning,
from the insatiable iawes of
cruell beastes, and from the
bloodie hands of theues and
robbers, and infinite the like
dangers, whereto we mis-
erable men are subiect in this
life. I praise thee also (good
Lord)

A perfect pathway

Lord) not onelie for preser-
uing of mee in this my tour-
nie, but also for prospering
my busynesse, and granting
good issue and good successe
vnto me in all thinge I haue
taken in hand. O Lord I ac-
knowledge it to bee thy onelie
blessing, and to proceed onelie
from thy mere mercy, and not
from anye deserts of mine. To
thee therefore, with thy Sonne
Jesus Christ, and the Holy-
ghost, be all praise and glorie
for ever.

A

to Felicity.

A Praier for euery Subiect of
a Common-wealth.

O Lord God, we acknow-
ledge and confesse, that
as in thy vnsearchable wise-
dome, thou hast appointed
some to rule and gouern, that
thy gloze may be increased,
and the common societie of
men maintained; so hast thou
ordayned also other some to
obey, and to be subiect. And
for that it hath seemed good to
th

thy

A perfect Pathway



thy blessed Maieutie, to appoint mee in the number of subiects, I pray thee (good lord) giue me a faithfull heart, and an obedient mind to my superiours, rulers, and gouerners. Keep me far from all disobedience, rebellions, treasons, conspiracies and practices against them; knowing that whoso resisteth the powers, resisteth thy holie ordinance (for there is no power but of thee) and purchaseth to him selfe eternal damnation, as thy holy word

to Felicity.

woꝝd beareth recoꝝd. Make
mee (O Lord) faithfullie to
obey them, and traelle to ho-
nour them, according to thy
blessed woꝝd and ordinaunce
in all things, not derogating
from thy honour: that they
iustlie ruling, and I dutifullie
obeying, may all in the end
receiue the crowne of ener-
lasting gloꝝie, purchased for
vs by the blood of J. Christ:
to whom be all honour and
gloꝝy, both now and for ever.

A perfect pathway

A praier to be said of those
that be unmarried.

O Lord our God, in as
much as thou hast com-
maunded in thy blessed word
the word of truth, that wee
abstainyng from all whor-
dome, and fornication, and
uncleannesse, should keepe
our vesselles in holynesse, and
not in y filthy lusts of the flesh
as do the heathen, who know
not thee: I beseech thee ther-
fore



to Felicity.

for to giue mee grace to perform this thy most holy Commandement, and graunt that I neuer pollute nor defile my bodie with whozedom, fornication, nor any other uncleannesse. And because, O Lord, chastitie of the bodie is nothing, without the continencie of the minde, bryde therefore, I beseech thee, all the motions and affections of my heart; that I banishing all wicked thoughts, and uncleane imaginations out of

Is 3

my

A perfect Pathway

my mind, may live in all holy
innocencie, puritie, and inte-
grity, both of bodie & soule,
unto my lites ende, throgh
the efficacy, power, & strength
of the pretious blood of Je-
sus Christ, Amen.

A Prayer to bee said
*of those that be
married.*

Holy Father wee are
taught by thy sacred
word, the breath of thy
own mouth, that after
thou

to Felicity.

thou hadst created all things,
the last of all other þ createdst
man, & woman of a rib of his
side, giuing her vnto him in
holy wedlocke, adding vnto
them thy blessing, saying: In-
crease and multiplie, and re-
plenish the earth: I giue thee
most humble & hartly thanks,
so; that it hath pleased thee to
call me to the honorable state
of mariage. And I most hear-
tily beseech thee, that we may
liue together in thy true faith,
seare, and loue, all the daies of

¶ 4

our

A perfect Pathway

our liues. Giue vs grace tye
one to loue the other, & both
of vs to loue thee, and our bre-
thren for thy sake. Keepe vs
(good Lord) farre from all
wickednesse, hatred, malice
and contention one with the
other. And as our bodie is
incorporate together, and be-
come, as it were, but one bo-
die: so vouchsafe, holy father,
that as thy owne Turtle
doves, we may liue together
in chastite and continencie
both of bodie and mindes,
without

to Felicity.

without defrauding one the other. And if it please thee to blesse vs with children, giue vs grace to bring them vp in such holy exercises, discipline and learning, as thou request of vs in this life. Grant that wee may labour and tra-uaile either of vs in our vocation, that by thy blessing, we may alwaies haue sufficient to maintain our estates with-
all, in thy holie feare; that wee be not chargeable to o-
thers, but lining sozth of debt
and

A perfect Pathway

and danger of all men, maie
be rich & plentiful in all good
works, to the praise & glozie of
thy blessed name, thou our Je-
sus Christ our Lord, to whom
be praise and glozie for ever,
more, Amen.

A Prayer to be said of
those that be masters
of households.

Thou hast commanded (ob-
gratious Lord God) by
thy blessed Apostle, y^e masters
should

to Felicity.

Should intreate their seruants
gently, and courteously, put-
ting away all bitterneſſe, and
threatning, doing vnto them
all equitie and iuſtice, know-
ing ꝑ thou art our common
maſter in heauen : graunt
me grace therfore (good Lord)
ſo to order my ſeruants, as I
neuer attempt noꝛ enterpriſe
anie vnrightheous thing a-
gainſt them, but ſo to execute
my authoritie ouer them, as
I maie alwayes remember
that thou art the Lord and
maſter

A perfect Pathway

master of vs all, and respect
no mans person. Spake
me, O Lord, to be the same
vnto them, that a good Pasto:
is to his flocke, to teach them
by wordes thy holie lawes,
and by example of life, true
righteousnesse and holinesse
in conuersation, that they and
I together in thy good time,
may all inherite everlasting
life, by Christ our Lord, A-
men.

A

to Felicity.

A Prayer to be said of
servants.

O Lord our GOD, seeing
thou hast ordained sun-
dry degrees and states of men
in this life, and amongst them
all hast appointed me to be
a servant, give me grace,
I beseech thee, to serve in my
vocation faithfully, and to
obey willingly in all things
not repugnant to thy blessed
will, not with eye service as
Audi.

A perfect Pathway,

Studying to please men, but
with all sinceritie, and singlenesse
of heart, as seeking to glorifie thee:
being thowolwie perswaded that in
serving them, I serue thee, and of
thee shall receive my reward.
Gine mee grace to demean
my selfe faithfully, iustlie, and
trulie towards all men, in all
things, and not to enrich my
selfe by picking, dealing, im-
bezeling, purloyning or con-
ueying anie thing from anie
man by any sinister practice
what.

to Felicity.

Whatsoever ; but so to behaue
my selfe towards all men, as
there may be no fault found
in me : that thy name may be
glorified, and my saluation in
Christ Iesus sealed vnto
mee. Grant this O Lord for
thy mercies sake, Amen.

A prayer to obtain the grace
and fauour of God.

I Confesse and acknowledge
(O Lord my God) that al-
beit



A perfect Pathway



beit a man doe abounde with
all transitorie pleasures, and
vaine delightes, that this
world can affoord, yet if hee
want thy grace and fauour,
all is vaine, vanitie, and vexa-
tion of minde, & he remaineth
neverthelesse the bondslane
and bassall of Sathan: yea,
all his pleasure is but a sweet
popson, and all his riches no-
thing but beggerie it selfe.
Powe downe therfore (most
mercifull father) thy heavenly
grace into our hearts, and
extend



to Felicity.

extend thy gracious saunour
and loue towards vs , that
wee may bee thozowly per-
swaded by the suggestion of
thy holie spirite, of the singu-
lar good will, and fatherlie
care which thou hast ouer vs.
Make vs, O Lord, to loue
thee aboue all things, and our
brethren for thy sake. Banish
farre from vs all hatred, ran-
cour and malice, and ingrasse
in our heartes godlie feare
and reuerence to thy holie
name. Keepe vs from all car-
nall

A perfect Pathway

nall securitie, and worlolie
delights, and chaine vs vnto
thee by the linkes of thy loue.
Finallie, graunt that wee
abandoning the world, with
all deceitfull pleasures, and
vaine delectations of flesh
and blood, maye in thy good
time come to those euera-
lasting toyes, which thou hast
promised to them that loue
thee, thoue w Jesus Christ our
Lord, Amen.

A



to Felicity.

A Prayer to God for a quiet
Conscience.

THe wicked and vngod-
lie (O Lord) are like
vnto a tempestuous, raging
and foming sea, which is ne-
uer calme, neuer silent, no:
neuer at rest, but continu-
allie boyling and foming:
wheras on the contrarie side,
such (good Lord) as loue thee,
belæue in thee, & obedientlie
walke befoze thee, haue all

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tole

A perfect Pathway



iope, all peace, and all tranquillitie of conscience, which is the greatest iewel, and the incomparablest treasure in the world. Give me therefore (holie father) a ioyfull mind, a quiet and merry conscience, with a full and resolute perswasion of the accomplishment and performance of all thy gracious promises made vnto me in Christ Iesus, in thy good time. Graunt) good Lord) that I maie so behaue my selfe in this peruerse and crooked

to Felicity.

crooked worlde, that I maie
haue the testimonie of a good
conscience, in all my actions;
that I being free from the ac-
cusations of Sathan, my
ancient and deable enemy,
from the vaine allurements
of the worlde, from the filthie
incitations of the flesh, and
from the heauie curse and
malediction of the lawe, may
be made thy elected childe in
Christ Iesus, and maie final-
lie inherite everlasting life,
thorow the merits and death

L 3

of

A perfect Pathway

of my lonne, who died for my
sinnes, and rose againe for
my iustification: to whom be
all glorie, prayse and thankes
giuing for euer.

A Prayer for a true and
liuely faith.

Inasmuch (most
mercifull father)
as without faith
nothing can please
thee, seeme it neuer so holie,
good, commendable, or beau-
tiful to the eie of the world, I
beseech

to Felicity.

beseech thee, to breath & instill
into my heart, soule & minde,
by the inspiration of thy
blessed spirite, this most ex-
cellent gift of faith, working
by charitie. O Lord giue mee
no weake, wavering, cold or
faint faith, such as þ very di-
uels themselves haue, who be-
leeue & tremble (as thy blessed
Apostle beareth record) but
giue vnto mee a true, perfect,
liuelie and inslipping faith,
such a faith (O Lord) as may
beleue thee to bee the onelie

¶ 4

true

A perfect Pathway

true God, and him whome
thou hast sent Iesus Christ,
with the holy spirit our com-
forter, and teacher, yea such a
faith as maie bring forth good
works in full measure, to the
glozie of thy most blessed
name, to whom bee rendered
all praise and thanks for e-
uer, Amen.

A praier for loue & charitie.

HO'ie Father, wee are
taught by thy blessed
word,



to Felicity.

wozd, that loue and charitie,
from a pure heart, a good
conscience, & faith vnsained,
are the cognizances and bad-
ges whereby thy childzen are
discerned, and knowen from
the pꝛophane people of the
wozd: I beseech thee therfore,
holp and blessed father, giue
me this Christian badge of
loue and charitie, that I may
loue thee, my Lord God, with
all my heart, soule and mind,
my neighbour as my selfe,
and all thy creatures for thy
sake



A perfect Pathway

take, that at the great audite
when all flesh shall appeare
before thy tribunall seat, I
may be knowne & discerned
by this thy cognizance and
badge, from the wicked and
reprobate, and being num-
bered amongst thy saints and
holie ones, maie bee receiued
into the kingdom of heauen,
there to rest with thee for-
euer, through Iesus Christ
our onelie Saviour and Re-
deemer.

A



to Felicity.

A Praier against pride and
for humilitie,

We are taught by thy
blessed word (most
holie Father) that e-
uerie good gift, & euery perfect
gift, cometh from thee the
father of lights, and that we
haue nothing which we haue
not receiued: Remoue farre
from me therfore (good Lord)
all pride, arrogancie, and
haughtinesse of minde, and in-
grasse

A perfect Pathway



grasse in my heart true hu-
militie, that I maie not only
acknowledge thee to bee the
authour of all good things,
yea, goodnesse it self; but also
may rest thankfull vnto thee
for them, & may so vse them,
as may be to the glozie of thy
great & magnificent name,
& the profite of my brethren.
Withdrow from me all loue
of this world, and giue mee
grace that I may reioyce in
nothing but in thee alone,
knowing that all things in
this



to Felicity.

this life are nothing but vanitie and vexation of minde, and that to loue and beleene in thee, is the onelie true life and felicitie of soule & bodie. To thee therefore with thy deare sonne Iesus Chyist, and the ho'le spirite, be all praise and thankesgiving for ever Amen.

A prayer for a good name.

Thou hast commaunded
(god Lord) in thy sacred
word,

A perfect Pathway

word, that those that prolesse
thy name, should be holy as
thou art holy, & shold so frame
their liues, as the very ene-
mies of thy truth may haue
no iust cause to speake euill of
them: giue me grace therfore
(oh blessed father) so to order
my life, after the rule of thy
word, as I may giue no man
iust occasion to speake euill
of me. Graunt, that whereas
it hath pleased thee in mercie
to bestow vpon me the name
of a Christian, the most ex-
cellenteſt

to Felicity.

cellentest name or title in the
world, so I may in my life
and conuersation bring forth
the fruits of true Christi-
tie, that thy holie name bee
not blasphemed, nor euill spo-
ken of amongst the heathen,
which know not thee. Make
mee able and willing (oh my
good God) to doe thy will, and
to stoppe the mouthes of all
them that lyinglie, falselie,
and deceitfullie go about to
take my good name from
mee. Finally, bring mee to
ener-

A perfect Pathway

everlasting life in thy appointed time, sheweth the merits of thy son Iesus Christ, to whom be praise for ever.

A Prayer for patience
in sicknesse.



Thy holie Apostle
O Lord) dooth
each vs that thou
wilt chastice eu-
rie childe whom thou recei-
uest, and that him whom thou
chastenest thou louest, and
further, that if we be not br-
der

to Felicity.

der chastisement, wee are ba-
stards and not childzen: there-
fore most holie Father, in as
much as thou hast at this pre-
sent layd vpon me thy heauie
rod of correction, and chastise-
ment, as a iust punishment
for my sins, I most humble
beseech thee, good Father, for
Iesus Christes sake, to giue
mee the excellent gift of pa-
tience, and contentation of
mind. Make me, O Lord, to
humble my selfe vnder thy
hand, to rest contented with
thy

A perfect Pathway

thy god wil and pleasure, and
not to repine, grudge oz mur-
mur against thy iudgements,
but in al things to submit my
will to thy blessed will, being
assured thou woꝛkest all foꝛ
y best to them that loue thee:
knowing most certainlie,
that thou woꝛkest my salua-
tion by these meanes, subdu-
est the flesh to the spirite, and
renuest mee in the inwarde
man, that I may serue thee in
newnesse of life, to the pꝛaise &
gloꝛy of thy blessed name, tho-
ro

to Felicity.

row Iesus Christ our Lord,
Amen.

A Praier for the assistance of
Godsholy Angels in any
extreamity or need
whatsoever.

FOrasmuch (oh most gra-
cious Lord God) as thou
hast created thy holie An-
gels, not onelie for the ex-
ecution of thy blessed will, but
also for the preservation, pro-
tection and defence of thine e-
lect and chosen vpon earth,

¶ 2

and

A perfect Pathway

and for that I thy poore ser-
uaunt, weake and feeble, am
at this present, and at all
times, and in all places, sun-
dry waies beset and assaulted
with infinite, both spirituall
and corporall enemies, which
daylie and hourelie seeke my
destruction; I beseech thee
good father, looke down from
heaven vpon mee, & send thy
holy angels, those ministering
spirits, to take care & charge
of mee, to watch over me, to
pitch their tents round about
me,

to Felicity.

me, and to save and defende
me from all the raging furie,
and cruell tyzannie of all my
enemies. Let me not fall into
their hands, O Lord, least they
be too pzonde, and say, where
is now his God? But abate
y their pride, allwage their
malice, confound their deu-
ises, and bzing their counsels
to nought, and make them
snares to take themselves
withall. Finally, grant, O
Lord, that I being delivered
and sette free from all perils

¶ 3

and

A perfect Pathway

and dangers, and from all the
rage and furie of mine ene-
mies, may giue thee thanks,
and so wholly to rest vpon thy
mercies. Grant this, oh Fa-
ther of all mercy, thorough
Jesus Christ our Lord, and
for his sake, Amen.

A Praier against sud-
den death.

O Lord our God who in
thy secret iudgements
as a punishment for
sinne,

to Felicity.

sinne, hast appointed euerie
man to die once; keepe mee, I
beseech thee, from suddaine
death, and from euerslasting
condemnation. Make me al-
waies readie and prepared,
good Lord, that the day of my
departure hence come not
suddenlie vpon me, to my
bitter destruction for euer.
Make mee also mindfull and
willing to die, knowing that
so long as we are at home in
the bodie, wee are strangers
from thee. Teach me to num-

¶ 4

ber

A perfect Pathway



bet my daies, O Lord, that I
may know how long I haue
to liue. Giue me also not one-
lie true repentance for all my
sinnes, but also sufficient
time and space to repent in,
that I neuer depart hence in
thy wrath and heauie displea-
sure. Giue mee a true faith,
and a constant hope, looking
for y accomplishment of thy
promises made vnto vs in
thy beloued; as also, a zealous
care, and feruent desire to
walke in the true obedience
of



to Felicity.

of thy blessed lawes and holy
commandements: that after
the finall dissolution of this
life, I may dwell with thee
for ever in the kingdome of
heaven, through Jesus Christ
Amen.

A Praier for one that is sick,
*and at the point of
death.*

O Lord our G O D,
who as thou hast ap-
pointed all men to die once,
so

A perfect Pathway



so hast thou ordained sickness
and diseases, as ordinarie
meanes to bring him to the
same, and as it were to sum-
mon him to the doome : I a
poore wretch, and miserable
sinner, visited by thy hand
with extreame sickness, and
griuenous diseases, most hum-
ble beseech thee for Jesus
Christs sake, to looke downe
from heauen vpon mee, with
the eyes of thy pittie and com-
passion. Pardon and forgive
me all my sinnes, which are
the



to Felicity.

the causes both of sickenesse
and death it selfe. Enter not
into iudgement with me, O
Lord, for no flesh is righteous
in thy sight. Punish mee not
(O Lord my God) according
to my deserts, neither in this
life, nor in the life to come:
for then I must needs perish;
so manifolde are my sinnes,
and so hainous are my trans-
gressions. Give mee grace
that I may willingly leave
this wicked world in full & cer-
tain hope of the blessed resur-
rection



A perfect Pathway



rection of my booke to eternall life in thy good time. Make strong my soule (O Lord) against all temptations of the wicked enemy, and strengthen my faith that I neuer wauer, no2 fall away from thee, neither for loue of life, no2 feare of death. Grant (good Father) that I may humble my selfe vnder thy hande, and take patientlie whatsoeuer it shall please thee in mercie to laie vpon mee, without all grudging and murmuring.



to Felicity.

murmuring what-so-euer.
And if it be thy blessed wil, re-
store me to health of bodie a-
gaine, as thou didst thy servant
Ezechias, prolonging his life
xlv. yeares more, that I may
praise thee all the daies of this
my transitorie and miserable
life: but if it seemeth better
vnto thee to take me out of
this wretched worlde at this
present, thy blessed will be
done. O nelle this (oh father)
give thy holy Angels charge
to carrie and conueigh my
soule

A perfect Pathway

Soule into thy everlasting
kingdome of heauen, there
to reigne with thee for ever,
thorowh Iesus Christ our
Lord, Amen.

A Prayer for those that bee
rich and wealthy.

Most gracious God and
louing Father, who
ginest thy blessings, and thy
benefites sundrie waies to
man, to some more, to some
lesse, according to y^e purpose
of

to Felicity.

of thy will, and as thou seest
to be best for thy glozie, and
their good: I praise thee, and
I thanke thee, for that it hath
pleased thee in thy great libe-
ralitie, to bestow vpon mee
thy vnwoorthy seruant, so
great a portion of earthlie
riches & temporall blessings.
I beseech thee to giue mee
grace, that I may vse them
to thy honour and glozie, and
to the comfort and helpe of
others that haue need, being
assured that thou hast made
me

A perfect pathway

mee a steward of so manie
and great things to no other
end, but that I should distri-
bute them to the poore and
needie. Oh Lord giue mee a
willing heart, and readie
minde to doe good, according
to that ability that thou in
mercie hast bestowed vpon
mee. And as I acknowledge
them to be thy gifts, so giue
me grace, good Lord, that I
neuer mispend them in glot-
tonie, drunkenness, riot, or
excesse, neither yet in pride,

to Felicity.

o2 anie other vncleannesse,
banitie o2 follie, knowing
that thou wilt one daie re-
quire a straitte account of me,
both how I haue gotte my
goods, how I haue kept them,
and how I haue spent and
layd them forth. And as thou
hast made mee rich in tempo-
rall blessings, and things of
this life, so make mee much
moze rich in spirituall giftes
and graces: that in the end I
boeing sonnde a faithfull and
iust Steward of thy goods,

¶

may

A perfect Pathway

maie receiue the crowne of
immoztall glozie in the king-
dome of heauen, thozow the
merits of Iesus Chyſt: to
whom be all honoz and glozie
for euer.

A Prayer for thoſe that bee
poore and needy.

GRACIOUS Father, who
haſt appointed in thy
unſearchable wiſedome, ſon-
drie ſtates and conditions of
men, and haſt commanded
euery



to Felicity.

euerie one to bee contented
with his state and calling
wherein thou hast placed
him, without all repining,
murmuring, or grudging
against thee for the same: I
a poore worrne before thee,
and one whom thou hast pla-
ced in the lowest degree, and
meaneſt ſtate amongſt men,
moſt intirelie beſeech thee of
thy fatherly goodnes, to giue
me grace to be heartilie well
contented with thy good will
and pleaſure, being aſſured

¶ 2

that

A perfect Pathway



that thou knowest what is
best for mee, and workest all
things for thine owne glorie,
and our good. Make me ther-
fore good Father willingly to
submit my will to thy blessed
will, to depend vpon thy pro-
vidence, and to cast all my
care vpon thee, who hast pro-
mised to be carefull for mee.
And albeit I bee poore and
needie, yet keepe mee farre
from all infidelitie, and in-
credulitie, from all mistrust
and distrust, and from all des-
paire



to Felicity.

paire of thy help whatsoeuer.
Finally, grant (O Lord) that
I walking in thy holie feare,
and doing those things which
please thee, may at the last
receiue the rewarde of euerla-
sting glorie, wherow Iesus
Christ our Lord.

A Praier for the increase &
preseruatiō of the fruites
of the earth.

As thou hast appoin-
ted man howe long
hee hath to liue vpon

Ps 3

the



A perfect Pathway



the face of the earth, most
mercifull father, so hast thou
ordained him meanes to pre-
serue and continue this his
life withall, as seemeth best
to thy godlie wisdom; and
to that end hast appointed
the earth to bring forth all
maner of fruites of infinite
varietie for his reliefe and
sustenance. Blesse therefore
(I beseech thee) the fruits of
the earth vniuersallie, and of
mee particularlie, whose
ground for the multitude of
my



to Felicity.

my sinnes thou hast made barren. Enter not into iudgment with me, O Lord, neither punish me, according to my deserts: but in mercie looke vpon me, and so multiplie my stoze, as thou diddest the Oyle of the woman of Sarepta thy seruant. And if it please thee (good Father) to multiplie and increase the fruits of the earth generallie, and of mee particularlie, grant seasonable and temperate weather also for the ga-

thering

A perfect Pathway

therting and reaping of them :
that we hauing plentie of all
things, may be rich and plen-
tifull in all good woꝝkes, and
with ioyfull hearts, may laud
and praise thy souereigne
Matestie all the daies of our
lines, thozough Iesus Christ
our Lord, Amen.

A Prayer against couetous-
nes and auarice.

O Lord my G D D,
most blessed and holie
Father, who hast com-
manded



to Felicity.

manded euery man to worke
and trauaile in his vocation,
for the maintenance of his
estate, & hath promised thereto
thy blessing; blesse (I beseech
thee) all my labours, actions,
enterprises, & affaires, which
I shall take in hand in thy
holie Name, at any time
hereafter, for the necessarie
maintenance of my poore
estate; so as I hauing al-
waies sufficient, may be free
from all couetousnesse, ambi-
tion, and filthy avarice, being
alwaies

A perfect Pathway

alwaies perswaded that god-
linesse is great riches, if a
man bee content with that
that hee hath: for we brought
nothing into the world, nei-
ther shall we carry any thing
out. Grant, god Lord, that I
having sufficient food and
raiment for my bodie, with al
other necessaries needfull for
this my life, may be heartily
well content therewith, not
desiring oz coneting more.
Withdrowe my heart, O
Lord, from the love of this
vaine

to Felicity.

vaine world, and of all things
in the worlde. Spake mee to
loue and desire thee, and no-
thing but thee; knowing
that he that loneth any thing
beside thee, loveth thee so
much the lesse. To thee there-
fore, oh Father, with thy
Sonne, and the Holie-ghost,
be all glorie, & praise for ever,
Amen.

A

A perfect Pathway

A Prayer to bee said before
*the reading, studying, or hea-
ring of Gods word.*

For that thy word (O
Lorde) as Dauid thy
seruant witnesseth, is
a light vnto our paths, &
a lanterne vnto our feet : and
for that all humaine wisdom
is nothing but foolishnesse be-
fore thee, and altogether un-
able to pearce into the bo-
wels and secrets of thy re-
uealed will, without the illu-
mination



to Felicity.

mination of thy holie spirite:
Inſtill therefore, O Lord, in-
to my heart and ſoule, the
ſpirite of wiſedome, know-
ledge and vnderſtanding,
that I may be able to vnder-
ſtande the myſteries of thy
law. Keepe me farre from all
ſeas, ſchiſmes, heresies, and
errors contrarie to thy
woꝝde, and ſo rote thy truth
in my heart, that it maiue-
ner be remoued, but alwaies
remaiue firme, and ſtedfaſt
in thee. And in the reading,
hearing

A perfect Pathway



hearing, studying, conferring, reasoning, disputing or talking of thy word, giue me (most glorious Father) not onelie the spirit of holie wisdom, to vnderstand it aright, but also grace to humble my selfe vnto thee in all holie obedience, reuerence, humillitie, and feare: that I obeying thee in thy word, and liuing thereafter, may come to those everlasting toyes which thou hast prepared for them that loue thee, thorough Iesus Christ



to Felicity.

Christ our Lord.

A Praier against swea-
ring.

Seing that thy holy name
(oh most gracious God,
and loving Father) is both
so honourable & maiestticall,
as the same is neuer to bee
either remembred, or once
spoken of, without great re-
uerence, feare and dread, at
the glorious naming wherof,
the vertie diuels themselves
doe

A perfect Pathway :

do quake and tremble as thy
holie Apostle Iames recoz-
oeth. And seeing thou hast co-
manded vs that wee should
not sweare at all, but that all
our communication should
be yea, yea, nay, nay: and in
as much as thy holie reue-
rence hath promist that thou
wilt not holde him guiltlesse
that taketh thy name in vain;
I beseech thee therefore, good
Father, so to direct me by thy
spirite, that I maie neuer
thinke, noz speake of thee, but
with

to Felicity.

with all holy reuerence, feare
and dreade. And in all my
communications & speeches
(good Lord) keepe me I pray
thee, from all maner of swea-
ring, forswearing, blasphe-
ming, and prophaning of thy
sacred Name. And for that
thou hast given vnto man-
kinde onelie the vse of the
tongue aboue other crea-
tures, to this end (no doubt)
that hee might glorifie thee
herewith: I pray thee (holle
father) so to qualifie the affec-
tions

A perfect Pathway

tions of my minde, and to order the wordes of my mouth, that in all my thoughts, wordes and deedes, I may doe worship to thy glorious Name, thouow Iesus Christ thy onelie begotten sonne: to whom with thy blessed maiestie, and the holy spirit, be all honour and glory for ever.

A Prayer against drunkennelle.

Most mercifull and holy father, who in thy great liberalitie

to Felicity.

liberalitie hast giuen vnto
man the fishes of the sea, the
soules of the heauens, and
the beasts of the earth, with
other thy good creatures of
infinite varietie, for the sus-
tentation and maintenance
of this his life, and hast com-
maunded them to bee recei-
ued with praise and thank-
giuing vnto thee for y same:
I beseech thee therefore, O
Lord my good God, and holy
Father, to giue me grace to
vse all thy creatures both so-

¶ 2

berlie

to Felicity.

berlie and temperatellie, and
alwaies to rest thankfull
vnto thee for them. Giue me
grace (blessed Lorde) that I
neuer abuse them, nor offend
thee in them, thoro w drunken-
kennele, gluttonie, or any
other kind of superflouitie, riot
or errele, knowing that the
abusing of thy good creatures
reacheth euen to thine owne
reuerence. Finallie grant,
that I walking in all sobriety
and integritie of life, may at
the last receiue the reward of
euer-

to Felicity.

everlasting gloze in the king-
dom of heauen, thozow Iesus
Christ, & for his sake Amen.

A Praier against slothfulness
and idlenesse.

VVe are taught, O
Lord, in thy holie
worde, that idle-
nesse is the mo-
ther & nurse of all wickednes
and sinne: for the bodie being
idle, the minde is naturallie
occupied in vaine thoughts,

D 3

and

A perfect Pathway



and foolish imaginations, and
so consequentlie made wea-
ker, & readier for the enemye
to assault. I beseech thee ther-
fore (oh my good God) keepe
mee from all idlenesse and
sloth, and grant that I maie
be alwaies occupied in some
good thing, to the glory of thy
name, and the benefit of my
bryethren. And as it maie
please thee, O Lord, in mercie
to keepe my bodie from all
maner of idlenesse and sloth,
so I beseech thee to keepe my
soule



to Felicity.

soule ever exercised in holie
meditations, and heauenlie
contemplations, thinking
alwaies of thee, louing thee,
and euer praising thee in all
things, til I come to y perfect
fractiō of thy heauenly ioyes,
thozow Iesus Christ, Amen.

A Praier for those that are
persecuted for the
truth.

O Lord Iesus Christ,
who coming into
this miserable worlde

A perfect Pathway



and taking our nature vpon
thee, didest thereby not onely
deliuer vs from sinne, but
also remembering thy mer-
cies, diddest also leane vnto
vs the inestimable treasure
of thy blessed word, as a per-
fect direction, and rule for vs
to frame our liues by, and
which alone is able to saue
our soules. Blesse therefore
this thy holy word vnto vs:
make it a worde of power to
regenerate and beget vs a-
new vnto eternall saluation
of



to Felicity.

of our bodies and soules: and
strengthen all thy servants
which in any place are perse-
cuted, imprisoned, condem-
ned, and dailie put to death,
for þy sincere profession of the
same, and for the testimonie
of a good conscience. Be mer-
cifull vnto them, O Lord: and
although they seeme destitute
of all mans ayde, or worlde
comfort, yet let thy swete
comfort and grace neuer de-
part from them. O Lord let
no further triall be laide vpon
them.

A perfect Pathway



them, then they may be made
able by thee to beare. And as
thou hast by the power of thy
might, not onely vanquished
and ouercome all cozpozall
and bodily enemies where
oz whatsoener, but also thine
and our spirituall aduersa-
ries : so, strengthen all thy
seruants that suffer any kind
of crosse, persecution, trouble
oz vexation, either in bodie oz
mind, for the constant profes-
sion of thy holte woꝛde and
sacred religion. Giue them
pati-



to Felicity.

patience, good Lord, to beare
thy crosse thankfollie, with
strength to go thorow, and to
perseuere to the end, even to
the effusion of their blood,
knowing that they who deny
thee before men, thou wilt
denie them before thy hea-
uenly father, and his holie
Angels in heauen. And for
that there is no true wisdom
whereof thou art not the au-
thour, inspire their hearts
with the spirite of true wise-
dom, knowledge, and under-
standing

A perfect Pathway

standing, that they maie
knowe thy will aright, and
that they may be able by the
same spirit to confound, and
overthrow all the enemies of
thy truth. Grant this, sweet
Jesus, for thy holie Names
sake, Amen.

A Praier for godly
Wisedome.

I Cōfesse (good Fa-
ther) that so long as
wee beare about vs this
earthlie

A perfect pathway

earthly tabernacle, impu-
ning the soule, that our na-
ture is so corrupted as it al-
waies rebelleth against the
spirit, accounting that true
wisedome, which is nothing
but mere foolishnesse indeed.
Wherefore (good Lord)
bouchsafe to send downe thy
holie Spirit, even the spirit
of wisedome which waiteth
upon thy throne, into my
heart, that I may know and
vnderstand what things are
good and acceptable before
thee

A perfect Pathway

were, that I may attaine e-
uerlasting life, thorough the
merits of thy Son his most
bitter death & passion, Amen.

A Prayer for grace to bee
mindfull to die.

 O Lord our God,
in whose handes
standeth the life
and death of all
mankind, vouchsafe I beseech
thee, for thy sonne Christ his
sake, to make mee mindfull
and readie to depart out of
this

to Felicity.

this miserable and transitorie
life. And although my bodie
doe creepe heere vpon the
earth, yet let my conuersati-
on be alwaies in heauen, fro
whence we look for a saviour,
euen Iesus Christ the righte-
ous, who shall change our
vile bodies, and make them
like to his glorious bodie, by
the mightie power whereby
he is able to subdue all things
to himselfe. Teach me, good
Lord, to know, that we are
all here strangers & pilgrims,
and



A perfect Pathway



and haue in this worlde no
dwelling place, but looke for
one to come. In regarde
whereof, giue me grace, I
beseech thee, willinglie to
forsake this wicked worlde,
with all the vanities therof, &
to hunger & thirst after that
life, which shall neuer decay.
Make mee (good Lord) to
esteeme all thinges in this
worlde as dongue, that I
may win Iesus Christ. And
for that the remembrance
of death terrifieth vs from
sinne,



to Felicity.

An, as thy servant Salomon
beareth record, giue mee
grace I most humbly treat
thee, alwaies to remember
and beare in mind, that I am
mortall, and therefore must
once of necessity depart
hence, either to everlasting
glorie, or else to everlasting
paines and confusion both of
bodie and soule. Oh Lord as-
sist mee with thy holie spirit,
that I maye so liue in this
present euill world, as I may
not feare either, but when

¶

soener

A perfect Pathway

soeuer he appꝛocheth, I may
with bolde confidence, crie
out & say, Oh Death where
is thy sting: oh Hell where is
thy victoꝝ? Grant this, O
Lorde my God, for Iesus
Christ thy onelie begotten
sonne his sake, Amen.

A Thank-giving to God for
all his graces & blessings
bestowed vpon vs.

SUCH is thy libera-
tion and mercie, O
Lord, towards mankinde,
that

to Felicity.

that for all thy blessings and
benefits both infinite and in-
estimable, bestowed vpon
him, thou requireth nothing
again, but thankfull hearts
to thee. Wherefore (most holy
father) I render al praise and
thanks to thee, from the bot-
tom of my heart, generallic
for all thy benefites and bles-
sings, for all thy great mer-
cies, and louing kindnesse
shewed towards me in Iesus
Christ, and particularly for
that it hath pleased thee to

10 2

elect

A perfect Pathway



elect and chuse mee in Christ
Jesus to everlasting salua-
tion, before the foundations
of the world were layde, for
creating me after thine owne
similitude and likenesse, for
redæming of me by the death
and passion of thy owne Son
Jesus Christ, when I was
utterlie lost and cast awaie
for ever, for regenerating
and renning of me by thy he-
lie Spirit, for sanctifying of
me by the same spirit, for in-
filling into my heart a true,



a



to Felicity.

a liuelie and iustifying faith
in Iesus Christ, for giuing
me grace to be penitent and
sorrowfull for my sinnes, for
inspiring my heart with a
true and constant hope, loo-
king for the accomplishment
of all thy gracious promises,
made vnto me in thy beloued,
without all doubting, or wa-
uering: for giuing me wise-
dome, vnderstanding and
knowledge in some compe-
tent measure. I praise thee,
and I thanke thee also, O

Ps 3

LORD,

A perfect Pathway



Lord, for feeding, nourishing
clothing and sustaining my
body ever since I was born,
for defending of mee from in-
finite perilles and dangers,
yea from infinite deaths,
which at divers times, and
in sundrie places haue laine
in waite for mee, and threat-
ned my destruction, and in-
to which I had certainelie
fallen, had I not bene by thy
gracious goodnes supported,
protected & defended. Last of
all, I thanke thee, good Lord,
and



to Felicity.

and I prayse thee , for thy
sweete promises of euera-
lasting saluation, made vnto
mee in Iesus Christ . For
these and all other thy most
gracious benefites and bles-
sings, (oh most glorious Fa-
ther) I prayse thee , most
humblelie beseeching thee for
Iesus Christ thy sonne his
sake, to pardon and forgie
mee my great vnthankful-
nesse, ingratitude, and un-
kindnesse towards thee, and
from henceforth giue mee

¶ 4

thy



A perfect Pathway



thy holie grace, that I maie
proceede from thankfulness
to thankfulness, from grati-
tude to gratitude, and from
kindnesse to kindnesse to-
wards thee, that I be neuer
accounted amongst the num-
ber of those ix. vnthankfull
Leapers, who being cleansed
from their leprosie, returned
not againe to giue thee
thanks. Graunt these my
petitions vnto mee, oh most
benigne father, with all other
good thinges which thou
knowest



to Felicity.

knowest to be necessarie for
me, better then I can either
wish or desire, even for the
glorie of thy great name, for
the truth of thy promises, and
for Iesus Christ thy Sonne
his sake my onelie Lorde,
Santour, Redeemer, Me-
diatour, and Advocate: to
whome with thy blessed
Paierie, and the holie Spi-
rite, one true, omnipotent,
and euermoring G D D, be
all honour, glorie, praise,
might, power, maiestie, and
domini-

A perfect Pathway

dominion, now and for ever,
Amen.

A Praier for the Church.

O Singular lover of vs,
Christ Iesu, O Bride-
grome to whom thy Church
is most deare, and which hast
promised that thou wilt ne-
uer faile her: increase her,
and multiply her with good
issue like the father, that is
to wit, like thy selfe. Make
vs to be all of one mind, both
in thee, and in the things that
concerne

to Felicity.

concerne thee, so as we maie
berillie be that bodie whereof
thou art the head, being (as it
were) glewed, and fastened
together with mutuall chari-
tie, kindled with that enerla-
sting fire of thine, which hast
so loued vs, that thou hast
spent thy blond & life for vs.

O Christ, the authour and
perswader of peace, loue, and
good will: soften our hard
and steelte heartes, warme
our Ice and frozen hearts,
that we may wishe well one
to

A perfect Pathway

to another, so as all men may
perceiue vs to bee thy true
disciples. And giue vs grace
euen now to begin to shew
foorth that heauenlie life,
wherein there is no disagree-
ment no: hatred, but peace
and love on all hands, one to-
wards another, Amen.

A Prayer for the forgie-
nes of sinnes.

O Soueraigne creatoꝝ of
all things, when I con-
sider what manner of mate-
Ule



to Felicity.

Me I haue offended with my
sinnes, I doe euen shudder at
mine owne rashnes. When
I bethinke me how gracious
and bountifull a father I
haue forsaken, I abhor mine
owne nakednes. When I
perceine from how blessed
freedome of minde, into how
miserable thraldome I haue
cast my selfe : I condemne
mine owne madnesse, and I
utterlie mislike of my selfe,
and my conscience is put in
such terroz, by thine vneschu-
able

A perfect Pathway

able iustice, as I see nothing
before mee but hell fire and
despaire.

But on the contrarie part,
when I behold that infinite
mercy of thine, which (accoz-
ding to the record of the pro-
phet) surmounteth all thy
workes, and where-through
thou art (after a sort) grea-
ter then thy selfe, whercas
(notwithstanding) thou art
greatest without all compa-
rison : a certaine cheerfuller
breath of hope blaseth out by,

on



to Felicity.

on me, & refresheth my mind.
For why should I despaire of
forgiuenesse of my sinnes at
his hand, which in the wri-
tings of his Prophets dooth
so often allure sinners to re-
pentance, crying out that he
desireth not the death of a sin-
ner, but rather that he should
turne againe and liue?

Againe, how readie thou
art to pardon such as amend,
thine owne onely begotten
Sonne (our gracious Sani-
our) doth beat into our heads
by



A perfect Pathway

by manie parables: as of the
lost groat & the finding there-
of againe: of the shepheards
bzinging home of his strale
sheepe vppon his shoulders:
but most evidently of y^e pro-
digall sonne, whose image I
see plainlie in my selfe.

Unkindlie haue I forsa-
ken my most louing Father,
lewde lie haue I wasted all his
substance, and in following
the lusts of the flesh, & in put-
ting of thy commandements
out of my mind) I haue tum-
bled



to Felicity.

bled my self into most shame-
full slaerie of sinne, and am
brought to extreame begge-
rie, and I see not whither I
may flie for succour, but to
him, from whom I am run
awaie.

¶ let thy mercie receine
him now submitting himself,
whome thou hast hitherto
borne withall so gentlie in
his straping from thee. I am
unworthie to lift vp mine
eyes to thee, or to call thee by
the name of Father. Neuer-
thelesse

A perfect Pathway

thelesse, vouchsafe I beseech thee, to cast thine eye vpon me: For thy looking towards a sinner, maketh him to re-
uiue when he is dead, and to returne home again when he is lost. Verily I am beholden to thy look for this misliking of my selfe at this present. As-
sone as y^e didst vouchsafe to looke vpon mee as I wand-
red farre from thee, by and by thou diddest restore me mine eyes, that I might see in how great misery I was. And
thou

to Felicity.

thou mettest me by the way,
inspiring me with a mindfull
desire and longing for the in-
nocencie which I had for-
gone.

Slave that I am, & unwor-
thy of all manner of punish-
ment, I seeke not that thou
shouldest embrace mee & kisse
me: I craue not y^e long robe
& the ring, which are the bad-
ges of y^e former dignity that I
did hold scoorne of. I see not to
be receiued to the honour of
thy childezen: it shall bee a
benefit

A perfect pathway

benefit great inough for mee,
if thou admit me but into the
number of thy basest seruāts,
euen of such as are bꝛonded,
and bꝛought againe from ro-
guing, that I maie at least-
wise be some hanger-on vnto
thee, for in thy house there
are many roemes.

It shall not greene me to
bee counted among the ab-
iectes in this life, and to bee
racked with repentance, and
to be sullied with mourning,
so I may not bee separated
from



to Felicity.

from thée for ever.

I pray thee, and I beseech
thee by the death of thy deere-
lie beloued, and onely begot-
ten sonne, impart thy spirite
vnto me to cleanse my heart,
and to strengthen it with his
grace, that I slide not thither
againē thorough enersight,
from whence I was called
backe by thy mercie, Amen.

Another.

O Most mercifull Lord,
how can I bee good,
which



A perfect Pathway



which haue been euill in the
good : I sinned, & thou win-
kedst at it. I continued long
time in my wickednesse, and
thou continuedst as long in
louing kindnesse, of purpose
to bring mee to repentance,
and to shew me fauor. Thou
therefore that hast borne so
long with my offences, giue
mercie to mee miserable
wretch. For I beleene that
whatsoener thou determi-
nest to forgive me, it shall be
as if it had neuer been done.

¶



to Felicity.

My whole life O my God,
maketh mee afraid, because
that when I list it thoroughly,
there appeareth welnear no-
thing but sin, or barrennes in
it: & if there be any fruit in it,
it is either so thin & slender, or
so vnperfect, & corrupted by
some meane or other, that it
may well, either bitterlie dis-
please thee, or at least-wile
not like thee. Therefore being
abashed at the multitude of
my sins, but yet trusting in
thy gracious goodnesse, I



A perfect Pathway



acknowledge and contesse to
thee my Maker & Redeemer,
which hast promised forgine-
nesse to offenders, that in sin
I was conceived, in sin haue
I beene brought vp, and in
sinne haue I liued al the time
of my life vnto this daie. I
find not any sinne wherewith
I am not defiled by some
meanes or other. Thus is my
scale filled with miserte, ac-
cording to the desert of my
sinnes. Thus is my soule
brought euen to the gate of
hell.



to Felicity.

hell. O my God, if thou deliver mee, I haue cause to thanke thee : if thou deliver mee not, yet I haue no cause to blame thee, for thou art righteous.

Alas, how haue I liued : what a number of evil things haue I said & done : I am ashamed that I haue liued so : my conscience telleth mee I haue deserved damnation : but I am sure that thy mercie wipe away all offence. Wipe away mine iniquities there.

A perfect Pathway

therefore, O Lord, with the
multitude of thy mercies, &
by the desert of thy most bit-
ter passion and death, Amen.

Prayse and Prayer for Gods
mercy towards vs.

BEhold (O my Creator)
many things haue I cra-
ued, but not deserved please.
I confesse, alas I confesse,
that these thy benefices are
not due vnto mee, but ra-
ther many and most strange
scourges:

to Felicity.

scourges : yet for that publicans, sinners, and theeves, (in a moment deliuered out of their enemies iawes) are mercifully receiued into the shepheardes folde, I am so much the more imboldened. For thou, O thou maker of all things, albeit in all thy woꝝks thou art maruellous, yet in thy woꝝkes of mercie y^e art surpassing meruailous: wherof y^e thy selfe hast spoken by one of thy seruants, saying: his mercy is aboue al his works.



A perfect Pathway



workes. And that which thou
spakest in generall of all thy
people, wee trust thou hast
verified vpon euery one se-
uerallie, saying: My mercy
will I not take from him.
For thou despisest none, re-
iectest none, thou terrifiest
none but such as most horri-
bly are afraid of thee. When
thou art angrie, yet dooest
thou not renege, but dooest
blesse with thy riches such as
haue kindled thy wrath, if
they shall cease.



to Felicity.

O my God, the hozne of my
saluation, and my defender,
(miserable wretch y I am)
I haue prouoked thee, I haue
wrought wickednesse in thy
sight, I haue kindled thy
wzath, and deserved indig-
nation. I haue sinned, but
thou hast spared me. I haue
greuouslie offended, and as
yet thou dwest forbear. If I
repent, thou forgivest mee.
If I returne, thou receivest
mee. Yea, if I prolong to
come, most patiently thou
dwest

A perfect Pathway

doest carrie my comming.
Thou callest him backe that
wandereth: thou allurest him
that resisteth: thou carriest
for him that is slowe: and im-
bracest him that returneth.

The ignorant is instructed
by thee: the mourner com-
forted: they that fall raised a-
gaine, and deliuered from
destruction: to him that as-
keth, thou doest giue: he that
seeketh thee, findeth thee: and
to him that knocketh, thou
doest open.



to Felicity.

O Lord God of my health,
behold what should I obiect:
what should I answere: no
refuge without thee: no coz-
ner is hid from thee: thou hast
shewed mee the way to live
well: thou hast given me the
knowledge to walke aright:
thou hast threated hell fire:
and promised y^e glozie of thy
paradise. And now **O** Father
of mercies, & God of all conso-
lation, so strike mee with the
scare of thee, that (standing
in awe) I may escape thy
threat:



A perfect Pathway

wearing : so restore mee to
the top of thy saving health,
that louing thee I may enioy
thy promises.

O Lord my strength and
might, my God, my refuge
& deliuerer, inspire my mind
what to thinke of thee. Put
into my mouth how to call
vpon thee. Giue mee such
workes as may please thee.
With thee a sorrowfull spirit
is a sacrifice : also thou dooest
accept an humble & contrite
heart.

My



to Felicity.

My God, my helper, enrich me with these blessings, strengthen mee with this armour against mine enemies, perforce in me this colourell to quail the fierie flames of my sinne. Giue mee O God, this state, for the troubled passion of my desires. Let me not be in their number O lord y strength of my health, who beleue for a time, and shrink away in the howze of temptation. Ouershadowe me in the day of battell, my
is hope

A perfect Pathway

hope in affliction, my helpe in
tribulation, Amen.

A Prayer, in meditating on
Christs Passion.

O Lord Iesus Christ, the
everlasting sweetnesse
and triumph of the that loue
thee, exceeding all ioy, and all
longing, thou sauer and louer
of repentant sinners, which
auowest that thy delight is
to bee among the children of
men: and therefore in the end
of times becamest man for
mens

to Felicity.

mens sakes: remember all the
foyetasse and grieve of sorrow,
which y diddest indure even
from the instant of thy con-
ception in y humaine nature,
forth on: but most of al when
the time of thy most health,
full passion was at hand, ac-
cording to the eternall ordi-
nance which God had pur-
posed in his minde before all
worlds. Remember y grieve
& bitternes which y feltest in
thy heart, even by thine own
recozd, when thou saidst: My

¶ 2

soule



A perfect Pathway



loule is heavy euen vnto the death. And at such time as thou ganest thy bodie & bloud to thy disciples at thy last supper, diddest wash their feete, and comforting them sweetlie, toldest them of thy passion that was at hand.

Remember the sorowe, anguish & griefe which thou diddest suffer throughout thy whole tender bodie, before thy suffering vpon y^e Crosse, at such time as after thrice praying, thou diddest sweat water



to Felicity.

waterlike vnto bloud, wast
betrayed by one of thine owne
Disciples, apprehended by
thine owne chosen people, ac-
cused by false witnesses, con-
demned wrongfully by three
Judges in thy chosen Citie,
at the time of the Passouer,
in the flourishing youth of thy
body: and being vtterly guilt-
lesse, wast deliuered to the
Gentiles, belpitted, stript out
of thy owne garment, clea-
thed with another bodie ap-
parrell, buffeted, blindfol-

R 3

ded,

A perfect Pathway

ded, bobbed with fists, tied to
a post, whipped, and crowned
with thornes.

O most swete Iesu, I be-
sech thee make me mindfull
of these thy paines and suffer-
ings which thou abodest for
my sinnes that I might bee
discharged and set free from
them, and mine attonement
bee made with thy Father,
through thy chastisement.
Make mee to abhor my so de-
testable cursednesse, which
could not be put away but by
thy

to Felicity.

thy so grievous punishments.
Make me to be heartily sozie
for my sinfulness, & to eschew
my offences, which drew thee
to þy suffering of so great tor-
ments. Make me mindfull of
thy great love to me, and to
all mankind, and let the infi-
nitenes thereof, kindle an vn-
fained love in mee towards
thee and my neighbour.

Let this thy vniuersal good-
nesse breede in mee a willing
mind and desire, to abide all
things patiently for thy sake,

It 4

and



A perfect Pathway

and for the truth of thy Gospell : and let it ingender in me a despising of all worldlie and earthlie things, and an earnest longing and indur to attaine to the heauenly heritage : for the purchasing wherof vnto mee, and for the bzinging of me therunto, thou hast indured these, & all other thy most bitter and intollerable torments.

Wherefore I beseech thee grant mee true repentance, amendment of life, perseuerance



to Felicity.

rance in all goodnesse, a sted-
fast faith, and a happie death,
through the merites of thy
sufferings, that I may also
be made partaker of thy bles-
sed resurrection, Amen.

Another.

O Jesu the true & fruite-
full vine, remember
the abundant flow-
ing out and shedding of thy
blood, which thou diddest
send out of thy bodie most
plentifullie, as out of grapes
pressed



A perfect Pathway



pressed at the wine presse, at
such time as y^e diddest treade
the winesat alone, and began-
ned to vs of the cup of water
and wine, by the souldiers
thrusting of thee into the side
with his speare, so as there
remained not one drop more
in thy body: but finally, thou
wast as a bundle of Myrre
hanged vp aloft, thy tender
flesh shrunke, the moisture of
thy bowels dreyed, and the
marrow of thy bones wasted
away.



to Felicity.

I beseech thee, O most sweet
Iesu, by this most bitter
death of thine, and by thy shed-
ding of thy most precious
blood, wound my heart with
such repentance of my sins,
and iote of thy lone, as my
teares may be my soode day
and night. Turne thou mee
wholly vnto thee, that my
heart may dwell with thee
continuallie, & my conversa-
tion be acceptable vnto thee.
And let my life (O Lord) be
such, as I may praise thee for
ever

A perfect Pathway
euer, with all thy Saints, in
the life to come, Amen.

A Prayer to Christ in
glorie.

O Bzether of ours, &
naturall sonne of that
father whose sonnes
thou makest vs by a-
doption, & head of our bo-
die, we see that thou art king
of heauen, forget not then
thy earth, whereinto thine
inestimable loue of vs did
bzing thee down. Thou from
out

to Felicity.

out of that place givest hope
to vs thy members, that we
maie come thither as thou
art exalted already. O guard
and defence of vs, what can
now hurt vs so long as wee
trust in thee! Most wretched
are they that know thee not,
and most happy are they that
doe ever behold thee. Blessed
are they that knew thee here
in the dayes of the mortalitie
of thy flesh: But more blessed
are they that see thee in hea-
uen, and shall see thee raig-
ning

A perfect Pathway

ning in the chiefe goods of thy
Father.

O lone and delight of man-
kind, **O** onelie hope of vs,
imbze vs with thy saour,
kisse vs, shed thy spirit into
our hearts, and make our
mindees to runne continually
vpon thee, to our exceeding
great comfort. Lift vs vp, ly-
ing flat vppon the ground: o-
pen our eyes, and lift them vp
vnto thee. Open thy mouth
to cal vs, & open our eares to
heare thee: that we setting
thee



to Felicity.

thee alone befoze vs, for our
marke to direct our life by,
maie square out all our doo-
ings, wordes, and thoughts
by thee, Amen.

A Prayer before the hearing
of Gods word.

MAny & sundry waies
Lord, dooest thou utter
and shew forth thy light vnto
vs in this great darknesse of
ours : but no waie more ef-
fectuallie & plentionfly, then
by thy holy Apostles, and
by

A perfect Pathway

by them that haue succeeded
in their charge. Great and
plentifull is the haruest, as
thou thy selfe hast told vs, but
few are the haruest folkes.
For the most part they be all
ignoꝛant, and ouercast with
the clond of darknesse. And
as for true Preachers that
teach as they ought to doe,
the number of them is verie
small.

Therefore we beseech thee
(O thou Lord of the haruest)
send work-fellovs into thy
haruest.



to Felicity.

haruest. Send vs teachers of
thine owne teaching, furni-
shed with the spirit of thine
owne wisdom & goodnesse:
that being good, they maie be
willing; and being wise, they
may bee able to preach, not
themselves and their owne
devices, but thee onelie.

And vnto this man also
grant the treasure of thy wis-
dome, that he may poure it
out vpon vs to our saluation,

And in vs open thou the
windowes and doozes of our
S hearts,

A perfect Pathway

harts, that we may so receiue
into vs the wholesome light
of thy most holie word, as
thou the good seed which shal
fall into vs, be neither choa-
ked with bziers, thoznes, and
bzambles, noz burnt vp with
drought, noz deuoured by the
birds of the ayre : but battle
as in good ground, and bzing
forth plentiful fruite, to the
praise and honoz of thy name,
Amen.

A



to Felicity.

A Prayer for Gods
Grace.

It is sorrowfull to be said,
How great a wound, our
nature which is fraile and
weake of it selfe, hath recei-
ued by sinne, and how much
ablie and strength it hath
forgone. It is not able to lift
up it selfe, nor to stand, nor
to goe, without thy helpe and
ayde. Whatsoever the mind
of man thinketh or deviseth,
it is vnterie vneffectuall,
and to no purpose, if it
be



A perfect Pathway



be not grounded vppon thy
fauour. Nothing is strong,
except it bee vp-held by thy
goodnesse : all things with-
out that, doe fall by and by to
the ground. That is it which
cleanseth and scoureth vs frō
our filthinesse : that is it that
strengtheneth our weaknes:
that is it that maketh all con-
ning workmen in all vertues.
Grant wee beseech thee, O
Lord, that this grace of thine
may alwaies accompany vs:
then the which there can no
greater



to Felicity.

greater gift be deuiled; net-
ther is there any thing which
thou bestowest moze readilie
and tollingly, and therefore
also moze often. Let the same
so work in vs, as we acknow-
ledging how much neede we
haue thereof, may both ap-
plie our selues continuallie to
crave it, and earnestlie ende-
uour by well-dwelling to keepe
it, Amen.

A perfect Pathway

A Prayer for confidence in
God alone.

The ground of mans decay was his trusting of himselfe : and the beginning of his rising againe , was his distrusting of himselfe , & his trusting to God.

A most excellent and singular wise guide , which lea-
best all them the rightest and
and neerest way to everlast-
ing blessednesse , which trust
thee trolie and unfainedlis:
Grant that as we be blind,
and

to Felicity.

and weake in verie deede, so
we may take our selues so to
be, that we take not vpon vs
to shift for our selues: but let
our looking bee to see thee a-
lone: & let our inabling of our
selues be no further, but to
desire to follow thee going a-
fore vs: to come to thee when
thou callest vs: to obey thee as
thou guidest vs: & to betake
our selues wholly vnto thee,
that thou who onely knowest
readilie what waie to goe,
maiest lead vs to the attaine-

§ 4

ment

A perfect pathway

ments of our desires , that
way which we would neuer
haue set fote into of our own
accozd, Amen.

A Prayer for true enlight-
ning.

O Lord Iesu Christ , the
light of all them that
put their trust in thee,
and the onelie Physician of
our soules: the light of minde
which thou hast put into vs
by creation, is dimmed, be-
faced, and in manner extin-
guished



to Felicity.

guished by the fall of our first
father Adam : and a horrible
maime and disorder is fallen
vpon all the powers & senses
of our soules.

Our wit, reason, iudge-
ment, discretion, vnderstan-
ding and will, are vtterlie
corrupted, so as of our selues
we cannot see noꝝ discerne a-
ny thing aright.

And when (thorough thine
inlightning of vs) we attaine
to the sight of any truth, yet
doth the stubburnesse of our
will



A perfect Pathway

will rebell still against it, in
so much that wee make say
with thy Prophet, that from
the crowne of our head to the
sole of our fote, there is not
one sound part in vs. Where-
fore make haste to help vs,
O Lord, least wee fall into a
wilfull lewd mind, and be cast
into vtter darknesse.

Create thou a pure heart
in vs, and renue a right spirit
in vs. Binde thou vp the sores
of our soules, wash them with
thy wine of thy precious blood,
and



to Felicity.

and annoint them with the
oyle of thy holinesse. Repaire
that heauenly Image which
is defaced in vs through sin,
and adorne it againe with
thine owne righteousness:
That we (being set in perfect
state by thy meanes) maie
sing acceptable praises euer-
lastingly to thee in thy holie
Church, thorough Iesus
Christ our Lord. To whom
with thee and the Holy-ghost,
be praise for euer, Amen.

A

A perfect Pathway

A Prayer that the olde man,
may die in vs.

HEE that will bee rea-
die in weightie matters
to denie his owne will,
and to be obedient to the will
of God, the same had need to
accustome himselfe to denie
his desires in matters of lesse
weight, and to exercise the
mortification of his own will
in trifles. For if that our af-
fections by this daillie custom
be not (as it were) half slain,
surelie,



to Felicity.

surely, surely, when y^e plague
shall come, we shall finde the
more to doe. If wee cannot
watch with Christ one houre,
as he saith to Peter, wee vn-
doubtedlie can much lesse go
to death with him. Where-
fore, that in great temptati-
ons we may be readie to say
with Christ: Not my will
but thine be done, (in that
this commonly commeth not
to passe, but where y^e rootes
of our lustes, by thy grace
deare Father, are almost rot-
ten



A perfect Pathway



ten and rooted out by a daylie
deniall of that which they de-
sire) I humbly beseech thee
for Christs sake to helpe me
herein. First pardon my che-
rishing, and, as it were, water-
ring of mine affections, obey-
ing them in their desires and
superfluous desires: wher-
through in that they haue ta-
ken deepe roote, and are too
linelie in me, I secondly doe
beseech thee to pull them vp
by the rootes out of my heart,
and so henceforth order me,
that



to Felicity.

that I may continually accustom my selfe to weaken the principall roote, that they by rootes and branches may lose all their power.

Grant me (I beseech thee) that thy grace may daylie mortifie my concupiscence of pleasure in things, that is, of wealth, riches, glozie, libertie, fauour of men, meates, drinckes, apparel, ease, yea and of life it selfe: that so the horrour and impatiencie of more grieuous

A perfect Pathway



griuous things, may bee
weakened, and I made moze
patient in aduersitie. Where-
vnto I further desire & praise
thy goodnes (deare Father)
that y^e wilt adde this: name-
lie, that I may ever become
obedient and readie to doe thy
good will in all things, hear-
tilye and willinglie to serue
thee and do whatsoeuer may
please thee. For doubtlesse,
although we accustom our
selues in the pleasant things
of this life, to a mortification
and



to Felicity.

and ventail of our selues, yet
we shall find enough to doe
when moze bitter & weightie
Crosses come.

Foz if thy Sonne our Sa-
uour (euer wont to obey thy
good will) prayed so heartily
and often, Not my will, but
thy will be done, whereby
hee declareth himselfe to bee
verie man: how can it be but
we, whose nature is corrupt,
not onely in natiuitie, but in
the rest of our whole life also,
shall find both our hands ful

II

in

A perfect pathway

in great and greenous temptations, wholly to resigne our selves vnto thee.

Grant therefore deare Father, for thy Chzists sake, I most heartily beseech thee, thy grace & holy spirit, to be effectuall in me, that dailie I may accustome my selfe to deny my will in more easie & pleasant things of this life, that when neede shall be, I may come vnto thee with a resigned will, alwaies steadfastly expecting thy mercie, & in



to Felicity.

In the meane leason, continu-
allie obeying thee with rea-
dinesse and willingnes, doing
whatsoeuer maie most please
thee, through Christ our lord,
which liueth & raigneth with
thee and y^e Holy-ghost, world
without end, Amen.

A Prayer to be vsed by
the sicke.

Lorde Iesu, the onelie
health of them that liue,
and the onelie life of them
that dye : I yekne and
I 2 giue

A perfect Pathway



gine ouer my selfe whollie to
thy most holie will, whether
it please thee that this sillie
soule shall abide anie longer
in the lodge of my bodie to
serue thee, or that thou wilt
haue it to depart out of this
worlde. For insomuch as I
am sure that the thing com-
mitted to thy mercie cannot
perish, I will willingly put
off this fraile & wretched flesh
of mine, verily in hope of the
resurrection, which shall ren-
der it to mee in farre better
plight.



to Felicity.

plight. I beseech thee strengthen my soule with thy grace against all temptations, and against all sathans assaults: gard mee with the shielde of thy mercie, whereby thou madest all thy Martyrs invincible in olde time, against all horrible torments & crnell kindes of death. I see there is no defence in my selfe: all my trust is in thy infinite goodnesse. I have no desert nor good woꝝkes at all to alledge befoꝛe thee: but as foꝛ

II 3

call

A perfect Pathway

euill woꝝks, I haue alas too
manie of them. Neuertheleſſe
my hope is that I ſhall be rec-
koned in y^e number of y^e righ-
teous, by meanes of thy righ-
teouſneſſe.

For my ſake waſt thou
bozne, for my ſake diddeſt
thou thiſt, for my ſake waſt
thou hungrie, for my ſake
diddeſt thou teach, for my
ſake diddeſt thou pꝛaiſe, for my
ſake didſt y^e faſt, for my ſake
didſt y^e performe y^e great num-
ber of good woꝝks in this lite,
for

to Felicity.

for my sake didst thou suffer
so many bitter pangs, and for
my sake didst thou giue ouer
thy pretious life to the death.

Let the things profite me
which thou hast given me of
thine owne free will, thou (O
sac) which hast given thy selfe
wholly for me. Let thy blood
wash away the spottes of my
sins. Let thy righteousness
hide mine vnrightheousnesse.
Let thy desertings commend
me to the soueraigne iudge.
As my griefe and disease in-

¶ 4

crease,

A perfect Pathway



create, to increase thou thy
grace. Let not my faith wa-
uer. Let not my hope stagger. Let not my charitie wax
cold. Let not my humaine in-
firmities be cast downe with
the dread of death. But euen
when death shall haue closed
the eyes of my bodie, let the
eyes of my minde looke still
vpon thee without waivering
aside. And when it shall haue
berest mee of the vse of my
tongue, let my heart crie Oed-
fastlie still vnto thee, Into
thy



to Felicity.

thy hands I commit my spirit, for thou hast redeemed mee, &c. To whom bee honour and praise, world without end, Amen.

A Prayer, in the time of
Pestilence.

It is no maruelle, O most
Righteous Father, that the
elements of this worlde are
fierce against vs, sometime
with earthquakes, sometime
with tempests & lightnings,
sometimes with overflowing
of



A perfect Pathway

of Dease Rivers, sometime
with pestilent concourses of
the heauenlie lights, and som-
time with corruption of the
infected ayre: for we do com-
monly abuse thy gifts.

We acknowledge, that e-
uen in this case also the crea-
tures serue and obeie their
Creator, whose commande-
ments wee neglect so often-
times. Also wee acknow-
ledge thy fatherlie nur-
turing of vs, whereby
thou callest vs backe from
the



to Felicity.

the trust of this world with gentle correction, and drawest vs to the desire of the everlasting life.

The humble beseech thee to remember thy mercy even in thy wrath, and fauorable to withdraw the afflictions which thou hast laid vpon vs in thy displeasure. The infection of pestilence shall do vs no great harm, if we withdraw our selues from the infection of sinne. But both those things are of thy gift O Father



A perfect Pathway



Father of mercie, namelie,
as well to haue our mindes
free from the popson of sinne,
as to haue our bodies safe
from y infection of y plague.
Such as haue fastened the
Anchoz of their hope in this
life, are wont in their perils
to flie for remedie to such
shifts as these: namely, some
to certaine Saints, as to S.
Kooke, or S. Anthonie: and
some to the pernicious Art
of witchcraft. But we, who
are fully perswaded that no
man

to Felicity.

man can escape thy band, be-
leue there is no such safetie
as to resoꝛt to thy selfe, and
to flie from thy iustice to thy
mercie, as to the surest and
safest sanctuarie that can be,
foꝛasmuch as thou neuer foꝛ-
sakeest them that put theyꝝ
trust in thy goodnesse: vnder
whose protection, even thy
chat dye are safe. To thee
therefoꝛe bee pꝛaise foꝛ euer,
moꝛe, Amen.

FINIS.



